

## Social contract under growing strain as more unions attack

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## Prime Minister asks unions to be patient

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## South African bishops speak out against systematic beatings and police torture

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The four IRA terrorists sentenced yesterday (left to right) Harry Duggan, Hugh Doherty, Martin Joseph O'Connell, and Edward Butler.

## Two police chiefs give a warning of early IRA reprisals

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## Syrians and guerrillas join battle in Beirut

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## Mr Ian Smith pleased with Vorster talks

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## Jenkins pledge on Europe

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## Procedural wrangling delays devolution Bill

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Home News	2-4	Diary	14	Science	16
European News	5-6	Engagements	15	Short Report	10
Overseas News	6-7	Features	16	TV & Radio	11
Appointments	8	Law Report	17	Theatres, etc	9
Arts	9	Letters	18	Years Ago	16
Business	10-11	Obituary	19	Universities	16
Parliament	12	Portraits	20	Weather	16
Court	13	Property	21	Wills	16
Crossword	22	Sale Room	22		



# British Airways unions prepare demand for equal voice in main investment decisions

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

Fourteen unions at British Airways are preparing a demand for power-sharing that would give them an equal voice with management in forthcoming multi-million-pound investment decisions.

Leaders of a newly-formed workers' council, which will meet for the first time on February 28, are aiming at power parity with the board by the end of the year. The plan was prepared by Mr Mark Young, general secretary of the British Airline Pilots' Association.

He said yesterday: "It is not important whether the work is done by employees or the board, or whether there is some other mechanism whereby they have the power to reach decisions jointly on issues that directly affect them. I do not see us putting people on the board straight away."

Some shop stewards at British Airways, including those from the Transport and General Workers' Union, the biggest union in the concern, are pressing for the early introduction of worker representatives on the board, in accordance with the Bullock proposal for private industry.

The strategy will be discussed at the workers' council meeting, and talks with management will follow. The idea was put forward by Mr Young long before the Bullock proposals were published, and the suggestion for equal power-sharing, without a third independent force, appears to go further than Bullock.

Mr Young, who is also chairman of the trade union side of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport, added: "There is enormous pressure on the Government to implement some advanced system of worker-involvement in the nationalized sector."

He believed workers should be involved in decisions about a big reinvestment scheme for the European division of British Airways, and in vital decisions about aircraft replacement for the cargo division.

The workers' council will concentrate on power-sharing, leaving intact the present negotiating structure on terms and conditions of employment.

## Labour executive aims at Lords abolition

By David Leigh  
Political Staff

Abolition of the House of Lords is to be put forward as official Labour Party policy, the national executive committee hopes. It is working towards ratification by the party conference this autumn.

Publishing the findings of an executive committee working party yesterday, Mr Eric Heffer, MP, its chairman, said abolition should become part of the next manifesto, and if Labour won the next election the Lords might cease to exist by the 1980s.

He had originally been in favour of a reformed second Chamber, but had been convinced during the group's studies that a unicameral system was the only answer.

Safeguards should be needed and there were residual difficulties still to be worked out. They included the present revising and Supreme Court functions of the Lords, and a technical difficulty about the state opening of Parliament.

The Queen opens Parliament from the Lords because she is not allowed into the Commons. Mr Heffer suggested that a ceremonial convening of the Lords might be needed.

The power of prime-ministerial patronage clearly put many members of the group of schemes for reform of the second Chamber at present being canvassed by Tory peers and a group of backbench Labour peers.

The question of patronage is of great importance," Mr Heffer said yesterday. "If you allow one man to have a tremendous amount of patronage plainly this is a position of great power and influence." Patronage should be limited as much as possible.

The working party has not yet considered the honours system as such, but the proposals to abolish the Lords have already been approved by the home policy committee and the full national executive committee.

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## Labour leadership election change is opposed

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

Labour MPs are likely to endorse a motion next Tuesday asking that there should be no change from the present system under which the Parliamentary Labour Party chooses the party leader. They will be rejecting ideas advanced at the last party conference that the whole party should be involved in the election of a leader.

The MPs have been asked for their opinion by a special committee of the national executive committee which was set up to define the office of leader and "to consider appropriate means of widening the electorate involved in the choice of leader."

Mr Cledwyn Hughes, chairman of the PLP, will move a resolution next week setting out its views. It was drawn up by the party liaison committee on which members in both the Commons and Lords are represented.

It notes that since the PLP's formation in 1906 the leader has always been elected by its members in the Commons. It con-

tinues: "The PLP strongly believes that there should be no change in their long established procedure for the election of the leader of the party and the following five reasons:

- 1: Any change in the system could have profound constitutional implications in that the leader of the party is the person who becomes Prime Minister must command the support of the parliamentary party in the House of Commons, and it is essential therefore to avoid any possibility of conflict.
- 2: The present system has worked well and the last election of leader in March, 1976, exemplified its efficacy.
- 3: The PLP, consisting as it does of people who have been selected as candidates by their general management committees and elected as MPs by Labour supporters in the constituencies, is a democratic electoral body.
- 4: The members of the PLP are in the best position to know the qualities and character of the candidates for leadership.
- 5: A change from present practice would place MPs in an invidious position by comparison with the Labour members of local authorities where leaders are elected exclusively by councillors.

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Armed policemen surrounded a house in Abbey Street, Ipswich, Cambridgeshire, yesterday as Det Chief Supt Charles Naan, head of the county CID, went in alone and persuaded two armed men to release Mr Keith Buckfield and his wife, Joan, who had been held there for three hours.

The two men went to the house after a bus conductor had ejected them from his vehicle.

Later, two men were being interviewed by the police.

Rate rise proposed

Norfolk Police and Resources Committee is proposing a rate rise of 9.8 per cent from 55.2p to 60.6p in the pound. That is lower than the increases proposed by some other county authorities.

## 'Harmless' toxins for sale

By our Parliamentary Staff

The sale of bacteria for civil research requirements was not a new departure for the Porton Down research establishment, but their offer by way of public advertisement was, Mr Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence, said in Commons written replies yesterday.

He had been asked whether ministerial approval was given for the advertisement by the establishment that appeared in *Nature* on December 2.

Mr Gilbert said the sale was approved in the normal way. It was consistent with the announcement on November 19 that the future of the establishment depended on civil requirements.

"The bacteria are not dangerous pathogens and are sold solely for research," he said. The reference to "any destination" was to make it clear that export inquiries were welcomed.

He said the sale of microbial products in 1976 brought in £62,000. Most of the materials offered were harmless strains. Only four bacterial species, two animal virus types and the staphylococcal enterotoxins could be regarded as possibly harmful to man.

"These are supplied only to bona-fide customers at recognized laboratories or research institutes and dispatched in full conformity with the international regulations."

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## Prisoners tell of drugging and maltreatment

By Peter Godfrey

Further evidence of inmates at Gartree maximum security prison, Leicestershire, being drugged and maltreated, and of prison officers using violence after the Hull riot, has come into the hands of *The Times*.

A smuggled report from a prisoner in Gartree supports allegations published earlier this week of drugs being used to control inmates. He writes: "After several weeks of solitary confinement one man suffered a mental breakdown, and was placed under the tender mercies of our medical staff, who, following the usual treatment practices, drugged him to such an extent that he failed to recognize men who knew him when they saw him in the hospital."

He later began to complain about chest pains, and because of this was placed in a padded cell dressed only in a canvas jacket, since it was decided

that he was imagining the pain. Subsequent X-rays revealed that his imagination was not to blame, but pneumonia was.

Another man describes an attack on a prisoner in Gartree's E wing punishment block. "Prison officers came near to strangling him with a towel, beat him about the head and body. He received severe injuries. The author says that three prisoners, including two serving terms for IRA offences, wanted to be called as witnesses to the incident."

"As a measure of retaliation," the prisoner continues, "the officers are charging him with assault. He is in no way assaulted prison officers on that day or any other. Brutality and victimization are everyday occurrences here, and are being covered up."

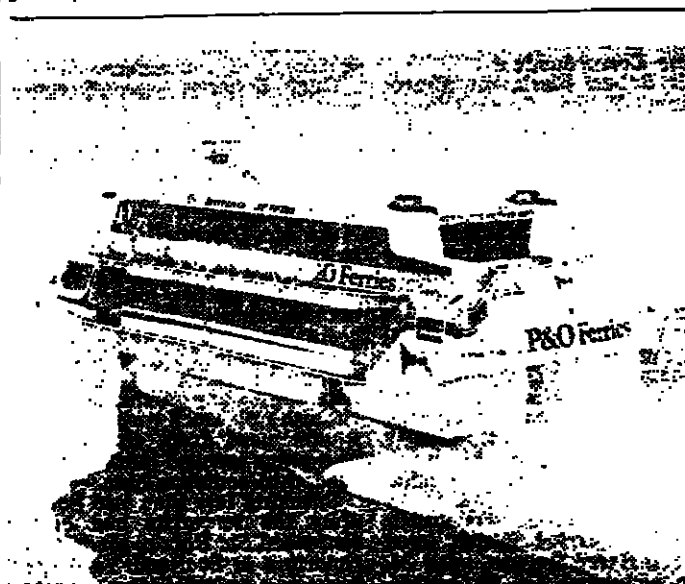
But reports were written inside Gartree last week. The Home Office has said that drugs are administered there

under strict medical supervision, and that any aggrieved prisoner can take up his complaint through the usual channels.

Two more prisoners at Hull have given strikingly similar accounts of a breakfast incident in the riot there last September. One, now in Leeds prison, says: "I was kicked, kned and punched by dozens of 'serenos' (prison officers) down three flights of stairs, and all the time their only concern was 'Don't mark his face'."

"Then came another man, and I heard a screw shout: 'Never mind, he'll bounce off the walls.' He was shoved into the riot, under Mr G. W. Fowler, Chief Inspector of Prisons. In the absence of an independent investigation the Preservation of the Rights of Prisoners (Prop) group is trying to launch its own inquiry."

The Home Office is still conducting its own inquiry into the riot, under Mr G. W. Fowler, Chief Inspector of Prisons. In the absence of an independent investigation the Preservation of the Rights of Prisoners (Prop) group is trying to launch its own inquiry."



Inter-capital: A six-hour crossing from St Katharine's Dock pier, by the Tower of London, to central Brussels will be offered by a high-speed service by hydrofoil (see above) to be opened by the P & O shipping group on June 1 (our Transport Correspondent writes).

An American-built 200-seat Boeing Jetfoil, which travels at 50 mph on vertical struts 6ft above the waves, will leave the Belgian seaport of Zeebrugge at 9.30 each morning, taking 33 hours for the 100 mile sea crossing and 35 miles up the Thames. The return will be at 2 pm to Zeebrugge, with rail connections to Brussels and other European centres. The single fare of £30 will compare with the air fare of £38 and journey time of four to five hours between city centres, and sea and rail fare of £20 with eight or nine hours' journey time.

## Programme for inner cities launched by Tory MP

From John Young  
Planning Reporter  
Bristol

Politicians of all parties have ignored the plight of the inner cities because the issue offers no electoral advantages, Mr Peter Walker, Conservative MP for Worcester and a former Secretary of State for the Environment, said last night.

"If you examine the amount of debate and discussion that has been provoked and created by those members sitting for the worst city areas you will find it somewhat limited," he observed.

"The Labour Party has, over the decades, come to take these seats for granted. The Tory party, because it looks on them as safe Labour seats, and not marginal to be won in elections, has not devoted anything like the concentration it should to this desperate national problem."

Parliament showed a remarkable lack of interest, and local government had never taken the initiative it should.

Mr Walker, who was addressing a conference in Bristol sponsored jointly by *The Sunday Times* and the Gulbenkian Foundation, predicted that if a

similar conference were held in six, three years' time, matters would be much worse.

At the moment both the Government and the Opposition were emotionally involved in hostility to public expenditure. Their simple conclusion was that one must be rather careful about such ventures as saving inner cities.

But one of the most useless forms of public expenditure consisted of huge payments for unemployment.

There were 250,000 unemployed construction workers, many living in inner cities, costing the country some £600m a year in unemployment pay, social security payments, and loss of tax receipts and National Insurance contributions, yet surrounded by buildings needing renovation. Unemployment among young West Indians in some areas exceeded 60 per cent and had grown worse.

A house-to-house analysis in desolate districts of housing difficulties and unemployment difficulties was needed. Once that had been published a programme of public expenditure could be drawn up over five or 10 years to bring those districts up to somewhere near the national average.

## Immorality, not criminality, judge tells youth

Judge Clarke, QC, sentencing two young men accused of intercourse with girls under age, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that it was a pity that they had been brought to that court for trial.

He told Gerry Lester, 17, and 17, of Shepperton, who admitted making a girl of 15 pregnant: "In certain circumstances this can be a serious offence, but in your case it is not a serious one. This is immorality, more than criminality, and I am not here to deal with immorality. I am here to deal with crime." The youth was given a conditional discharge for two years.

David John Harvey, aged 18, of Hinchley Wood, Surrey, admitted four charges of unlawful intercourse with two girls of 13 and 15, and asked for 23 similar charges to be considered. He was fined £20. "You must restrain yourself," the judge said.

First meeting in London

The European Parliament's political affairs committee will meet in London for the first time next Tuesday. The occasion will be the quarterly discussion with foreign ministers of the Nine on progress made in EEC political cooperation.

There will be a preliminary meeting on Monday at Lancaster House to discuss the Community's relations with Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Protest by firemen

Firemen in Essex yesterday began answering only emergency calls in protest against a county council recommendation to cut fire service costs.

## Rise in complaints against police

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

The number of complaints against the police rose from 12,721 in 1971 to 15,543 in 1975, according to a parliamentary written reply yesterday by Mr Rees, Home Secretary. But cases leading to criminal charges, including those for traffic offences, rose from only 90 in 1971 to 127 in 1975.

The number of cases determined by the Director of Public Prosecutions shows an increase in the whole of England and

Wales from 1,809 in 1971 to 3,131 in 1975. The figures include allegations of traffic offences.

The peak year for the Metropolitan Police, whose figures are included in the total, was 1972. The figure for the force then reached 1,005 cases determined by the DPP, compared with 713 in 1971 and 801 in 1975.

Of the 1,005 cases, the DPP recommended prosecution in 74, with 19 leading to conviction in the year (including traffic offences) and five to acquittal.

OUTCOME OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE					
	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
England and Wales					
Complaints	12,721	15,543	16,135	17,454	19,205
Cases leading to criminal charges (incl. traffic offences)	90	127	110	105	128
Cases leading to disciplinary charges	209	238	165	189	247
Metropolitan Police only					
Complaints	4,032	5,671	5,566	6,173	6,233
Cases leading to criminal charges (incl. traffic offences)	15	19	17	17	9
Cases leading to disciplinary charges	88	111	78	68	64

\* Not included in cases where charges are brought in subsequent year.

\*\* In some cases complaint may have been made in earlier year.

70 journalists end strike after nine weeks

By Tim Jones  
Labour Staff

Seventy journalists employed by the East Midlands Allied Press decided yesterday to accept recommendations made by the TUC's printing industry committee, to end their nine-week dispute over better fringe benefits.

Under the agreement the National Union of Journalists will have sole bargaining rights at the company. A union spokesman said they would seek an assurance that members who had "defected" to the rival Institute of Journalists would rejoin the NUJ.

The agreement also increases fringe benefits and allows for "free collective bargaining" on expenses once the pay-restraint policy ends.

Another dispute involving NUJ members was settled yesterday when journalists at Mercury House, a big London publishing company, returned to work after a five-week official strike. An agreement signed yesterday gives a job evaluation scheme, improved redundancy terms and improved sick pay. A claim for a post-entry NUJ closed shop was not granted.

## Two detectives fined for police armoury theft

Two men who were in charge of a police armoury were fined at Bristol Crown Court yesterday on being found guilty of stealing weapons. A Special Branch officer, was cleared of two similar charges.

The three were William Alexander McGill, aged 55, a retired detective sergeant, of Swan Lane, Draycott, Cheddar; Detective Constable Donald Gordon Bradford, aged 50, of Wordsworth Road, Horfield, Bristol, and Detective Sergeant John Dark, aged 39, now a Special Branch officer, of Jubilee Road, Kingswood, Bristol.

All denied two joint charges of stealing antique weapons from Bristol police armoury, where they had worked. Mr McGill denied a further charge of handling a stolen rifle.

The jury found Mr McGill, with 25 years' police service, guilty on two charges of theft, but not guilty of the handling charge. Constable Bradford, with 22 years' service, was found guilty on one theft charge but cleared on the

## Attempt lives of top Ulst business

From Martin Huckle  
Belfast

Gunnmen attempted to murder two leading Irish businessmen when, Mr Alistair aged 31, a director of McManus and So chain of retail shoe wounding.

The shootings, in the murder last of the Agass, a clergyman, in L occurred in the M area of south Belfast.

The first was at of Mr McManus, in Park. He was shot after opening the men. His condition was not serious.

About 45 minutes men knocked on the home of S McKinnon, a former of the Northern I Police Authority, in Park South, about the scene of the fi

Sir William, age man of the Lilliput Dummurry, was sus did not answer the door. Instead, he looked out of a window. As he did he saw gunmen fire four at the front door. He injured.

A second man, J. Pius Donnelly, aged 40, was shot yesterday by B trates, charged with of Mr Agate.

Disension in movement in North was increased yeste resignation of two h in Londonderry. Doherty and his garet.

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ME NEWS

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By Mark Vaughan, of The Times Educational Supplement

Rank and File, the militant left-wing teachers' ginger group was attacked last night by Mr Frederick Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers.

Speaking at Ulverston, Cumbria, Mr Jarvis condemned Rank and File as a "self-appointed politically inspired group which holds the rules and policies of the union in complete contempt."

He said the group, which promoted unofficial action, was breaking the rules of the union and challenging the basis for action laid down by the executive and approved by an overwhelming majority at the annual conference.

"This very small minority is in effect telling the majority of the members of the union that they wish to impose their minority view on the rest of the union and to take action as they please and not in conformity with the policies decided by the majority," Mr Jarvis denied that the NUT was in any way involved in the school meal duties, the interim pay award and the London allowance.

"That is a perversion of the truth, for in each case the action taken by the membership was official action and it was approved and led by the executive of the day."

The NUT has about 290,000 members and Rank and File's 1,500 members are in about 100 groups. Mr Jarvis described Rank and File as a political organization with no connexion with the union.

NUT leader denounces  
teaching ginger group

By Mark Vaughan, of The Times Educational Supplement

Rank and File, the militant left-wing teachers' ginger group was attacked last night by Mr Frederick Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers.

Speaking at Ulverston, Cumbria, Mr Jarvis condemned Rank and File as a "self-appointed politically inspired group which holds the rules and policies of the union in complete contempt."

He said the group, which promoted unofficial action, was breaking the rules of the union and challenging the basis for action laid down by the executive and approved by an overwhelming majority at the annual conference.

"This very small minority is in effect telling the majority of the members of the union that they wish to impose their minority view on the rest of the union and to take action as they please and not in conformity with the policies decided by the majority," Mr Jarvis denied that the NUT was in any way involved in the school meal duties, the interim pay award and the London allowance.

"That is a perversion of the truth, for in each case the action taken by the membership was official action and it was approved and led by the executive of the day."

The NUT has about 290,000 members and Rank and File's 1,500 members are in about 100 groups. Mr Jarvis described Rank and File as a political organization with no connexion with the union.

St Anne's  
College,  
Oxford, may  
admit men

From Our Correspondent Oxford

St Anne's College is likely to become the first of the five women's colleges at Oxford to admit men as members. It already has a man for treasurer, Mr Bernard Halshead, who is a member of the college governing body.

The college is seeking to amend its statutes to allow men as well as women to become fellows; if approved, that would open the way for a man to become principal.

The present principal, Mrs Nancy Trennan, says the college is not thinking of opening its student membership to men as well as women. The present move is intended to remove doubts about the employment of men as well as women as fellows.

The college has, in addition to the principal, 23 women fellows, 350 undergraduates and 120 graduates.

St Peter's College also wants to amend its statutes so as to admit women to fellowships. Similarly, the move is not intended as a first step towards the general admission of women.

Professor Max Beloff explains why he has left the Association of University Teachers: David Walker reports on the growing demand for a British Brookings, and Jane Monahan writes on higher education in Argentina, all in The Times Higher Education Supplement today.

Not even a nod between British and Irish delegations

From Christopher Walker Strasbourg

To most ordinary citizens in Belfast, Dublin and London the legal wrangling over torture allegations which ended in the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg on Wednesday, after final submissions had been made, may have seemed irrelevant to the continuing violence in Northern Ireland. But there is no question about the damage it has inflicted on Britain's international reputation long before the verdict.

As the detailed arguments were presented by the opposing attorneys-general, the members of the large press corps who showed the keenest interest were Mr Eugene Babenko and Vladimir O. Ouchimikov, representing respectively Tass and Pravda. Every night they filed lengthy accounts to Moscow about the murky events in Ulster interrogation centres more than five years ago. Soviet television was also at the hearing and Council of Europe officials were in no doubt that anti-British propaganda was being gathered in advance of the East-West conference scheduled for Belgrade later this year.

The proceedings of the court were not designed to provide courtroom drama, even when the subject was as emotive as torture. The 18 judges, including two women, sat in a wide semi-circle, and listened to speeches without interrupting.

Acrimony at Strasbourg over  
allegations of torture

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Councils aim  
to take  
over health  
service

By John Roper Health Services Correspondent

The only ultimately satisfactory method of organizing effective health and personal social services is to transfer the National Health Service to local government.

That is the main suggestion made by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, representing local authorities in the most densely populated areas of England and Wales, in evidence to the Royal Commission on the NHS, published yesterday.

It points out that until 1974 (NHS reorganization) local authorities were responsible for community-based health services, and 30 years ago many authorities ran hospital services.

NHS and local authorities were now closely involved not only in care in the community but in education, environmental health and housing. But present arrangements for working together were inadequate. Too few local authority members were appointed to area and regional health authorities, and those who were found their powers and responsibilities unclear and restricted.

Joint consultative committees, established to link services, had no "teeth". Increasing demands were being made on local community-based services with their resources and there was almost permanent conflict between health and personal social services staff on difficulties such as admissions and discharges to and from hospital of the elderly, the mentally ill and the disabled.

School strike  
planned  
against cuts

Members of the National Union of Teachers are threatening to withdraw their services from schools in Hereford and Worcester next Thursday in protest against planned reductions of about £6m in the county council's education budget.

They are being asked to attend a demonstration at Hereford, where the council will consider its budget.

The NUT stated that the authority's education committee had already agreed to cuts of more than £4m, involving the loss of 180 teaching posts. If the council agreed to a 69p rate further cuts of more than £2m in education would be needed. That would probably mean the loss of 450 more jobs.

referring fewer  
to the Ombudsman

Mr Justice made 329 referrals on the results of investigations during the last year, a fall from 391 in the previous year.

Mr Justice said the fall was due to the fact that the four departments which most commonly made referrals to the ombudsman were the Home Office, the Inland Revenue, the Environment, and the Science, in that order.

Reference is also made to areas of action in planning matters where issues referred to him may be of a kind he can accept for investigation only by exercising his discretion to set aside the provisions that normally prevent him from investigating matters where a remedy is available in the courts. Sir Idwal says he will be seeking further guidance from the parliamentary select committee.

Second report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration—Annual Report for 1976 (Stationery Office, 75p).

against  
who  
romises

Prosecutions against a trader who had committed public nuisance would not be pursued if he could not be traced, it was alleged by a trader who had allegedly committed a public nuisance in Manchester.

Mr John Harbottle, for the defence, said the officers' visit resulted in an immediate board meeting, at which the trader tendered his resignation. The company had only recently acquired the Forge Inn and realized that the kitchen facilities were inadequate. It had already spent £2,000 cleaning up the kitchen which now "shone like a new pin" and planned to spend £20,000 more on improvements.

Customers 'in  
danger of  
food poisoning'

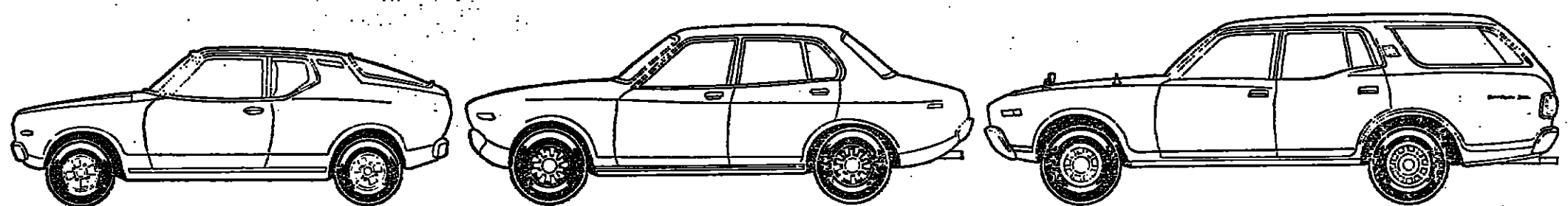
From Our Correspondent York

Customers at a restaurant specializing in old-fashioned banquets were in danger of food poisoning because of an appalling lack of cleanliness, magistrates at Selby, North Yorkshire, were told yesterday.

Fines and costs totalling £1,600 were imposed on the Tower Entertainment Group, of Leeds, which admitted 17 offences under the food hygiene regulations at its Forge Inn restaurant, near York.

Mr John Harbottle, for the prosecution, said that health officials discovered mouse droppings, grease, old food, cobwebs and foul-smelling refrigerators. They were horrified and considered closing the restaurant down immediately. They were told that the company had relied on kitchen staff to do the cleaning.

Mr Michael Shepherd, for the defence, said the officers' visit resulted in an immediate board meeting, at which the trader tendered his resignation. The company had only recently acquired the Forge Inn and realized that the kitchen facilities were inadequate. It had already spent £2,000 cleaning up the kitchen which now "shone like a new pin" and planned to spend £20,000 more on improvements.



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100,000 miles on, Datsun reliability  
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- \*\*\* Motor Magazine in a survey of the 20 top selling cars found Datsuns the most reliable of them all! The Sunny had the least number of days off the road—0.2 days per 10,000 miles! No wonder it's been the best selling imported car for the past two years.
- \*\*\* A nationwide Consumer Survey showed "far fewer" Datsuns spent time off the road than other cars.
- \*\*\* And the AA's "Drive Magazine" in a survey of 24 popular cars reported that the Datsun Cherry and Sunny were cheapest on servicing and repairs.
- \*\*\* Letters from Datsun owners say the same, including fleet owners who are delighted with the trouble-free, low cost motoring they achieve with Datsun.

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These are typical of the comments we receive:

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\* Mrs. Joy Gordon, Ramsgate, Kent: "My Datsun Sunny Coupé has now done 181,000 miles. I travel 200 miles daily and have had no mechanical failures other than a replacement alternator. Reliability is the key factor and in the Datsun I have found it."

\* Mr. D. L. Epps, Near Tonbridge, Kent: "I own a 1972 Datsun Bluebird 160B which I have now driven for over 98,000 miles. When I bought this car, I gambled that it might turn out to be reliable and economical. On both counts it has exceeded all expectations... I cannot praise this car enough."

**DRIVING SCHOOLS**

\* Mr. W. Luck, Luck School of Motoring, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire: "My 1973 Datsun Sunny has covered 218,275 miles and is still running well on the same engine. It has not had an easy life, being a driving instructor's car for four years. Thank you for a car which has given such a wonderful service, a car which cannot be beaten."

\* Mr. G. Davies, Snowdon School of Motoring, Caernarfon: "My Sunny 4-door saloon has done 158,000 miles and has never let me down. The first replacement was a new clutch plate at 147,000 miles. I go out in the morning and I know I am going to do a full day's work."

**FLEET USERS**

\* Mr. Bob Davis, Air Call Communications Ltd., Dunstable, Beds: "We have over 80 Datsuns in the U.K. equipped with radio telephones in use 24 hours a day doing very high mileage sometimes on emergency medical calls. We have tried other cars and came back to Datsun because we must have the reliability and low running costs."

\* The Gilpin Group, Leeds (Hotellers and Caterers): "We have been using Datsuns for four years and have a fleet of 15, mainly estate cars, and they are thoroughly reliable and trouble-free. Our cars do a high mileage and we are well satisfied with Datsun."

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# Judge recommends that IRA bombers should serve a minimum of 30 years in prison

By Clive Borrell  
Crime Correspondent

Mr Justice Cantley, sentencing the four Provisional IRA men who waged a campaign of bombings and shootings in Britain in 1975 to life sentences, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he would recommend that they should serve a minimum of 30 years.

As each one was escorted in to the dock of number 2 Court at the end of the 13-day trial the judge said: "I will recommend to the Home Secretary that you serve not less than 30 years without reference to the court."

Within the space of 20 minutes Mr Justice Cantley sentenced the four men: Martin Joseph O'Connell, aged 25, of Lower Market Street, Ennis, co Clare; Edward Butler, aged 28, of St Flannagan's Terrace, Limerick; and Harry Duggan, aged 24, of Feakle, co Clare, were each convicted on 20 charges and given 12 life sentences, 21 years for manslaughter, six 20 year sentences and one sentence of 18 years.

Rush Doherty, aged 26, of Crossbank Road, Glasgow, was convicted on 18 charges and was given 11 life sentences, 21 years for manslaughter, five sentences of 20 years and one of 18 years.

Three of the men spoke during the brief moments they were brought singly into court. Harry Duggan ran up the steps



Mrs Ross McWhirter, widow of the author (Diary, page 14)

from his cell into the dock, lean against the rail, faced the judge and said: "I am not listening to any of this English rubbish. Will I be allowed to make a statement?"

Mr Justice Cantley silenced him by saying "No, you won't," and then went on reading out the sentences against him.

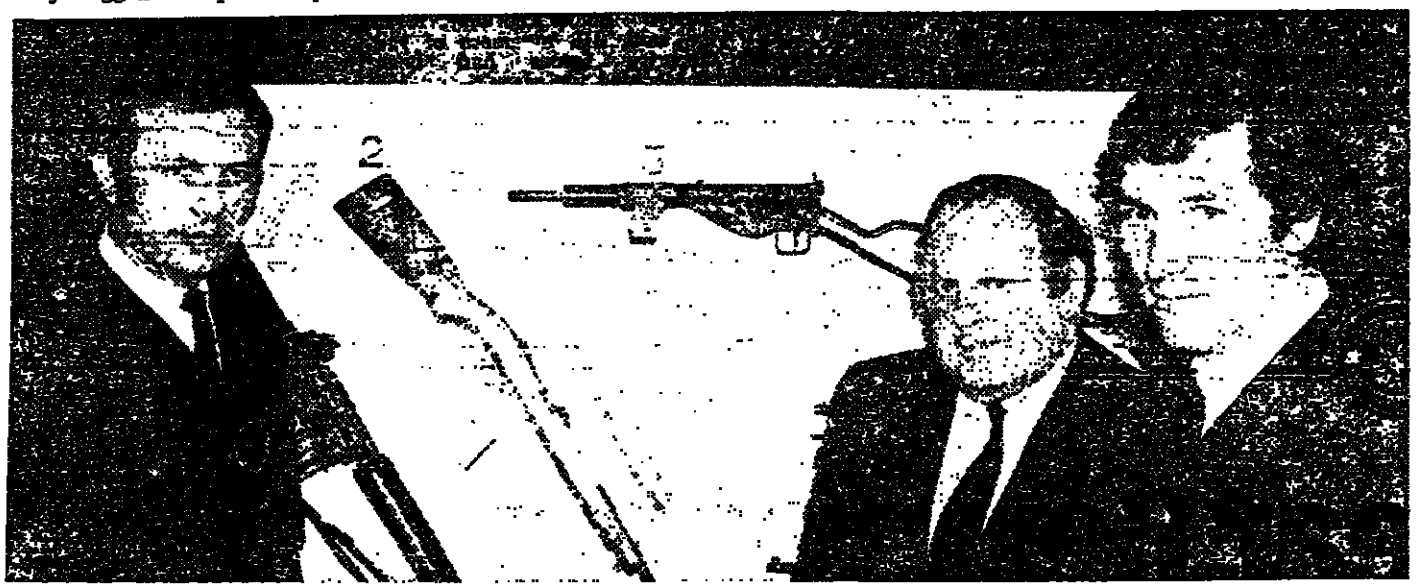
Mathew, chief Treasury counsel, who led for the Crown, and referred to the Balcombe Street siege, saying: "I take the view that the hostages' lives were perpetually in danger. If the police had broken in the terrorists would have murdered them merely for the vile satisfaction of thwarting the police in their rescue."

"I have been dealing so far with criminals who call themselves soldiers, fighting and shooting unarmed men and murdering unprotected women, sneaking up and throwing a bomb through a restaurant window before running away."

"I want now to commend men of true worth: unarmed policemen who faced and chased these criminals, and the bomb-disposal officers like Major Bidde, Major Henderson and Captain Cole, who staked their lives against the chance of being able to make a bomb safe for others."

The judge made special mention of two officers, Det Inspector Henry Dowsell and Inspector John Purnell, who dodged gunfire from the four defendants after they had been cornered in Balcombe Street.

"I realize that there were other policemen who showed great courage and devotion to duty but were not identified during the trial," he said. "I hope they will receive the recognition they undoubtedly deserve. The public is very fortunate to have the protection of men such as these."



Inspector John Purnell (left), Det Inspector Henry Dowsell (centre), commended by the judge, and Sergeant Philip McVeigh, who also confronted the gunmen, with some of the weapons produced during the trial.

## Shattered lives in the aftermath of the killings

By Clive Borrell

The shattered lives and personal tragedies that followed in the wake of the bombings will probably never be fully recorded.

In tree-lined Campden Hill Square, Kensington, London, the full impact of one tragedy could immediately be felt. It was there on October 23, 1975, that a big bomb was left under the car belonging to Mr Hugh Fraser, the Conservative MP. It exploded when his neighbour, Professor Gordon Hamilton Fairley, aged 45, father of four children took his dogs for an early-morning walk.

The bomb's innocent victim, Mr Hamilton Fairley, one of the country's leading experts in cancer research, spared time from his laboratory at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, only for his family.

At his home, more than 15 months after his death, his widow, Daphne, a speech therapist, who spends much of her time teaching children to overcome speech abnormalities, said: "I have just sold this house and I hope that I shall be able to use the end of this case to push me on as it were somehow into the future. I cannot tell you how I feel but I have tried to express myself by writing it down."

On a sheet of paper torn from a notebook was written: "I am not political in any way and still do not feel bitter towards Ireland or the Irish; but as a mother and someone who has always dealt with the problems of people in difficulties, it seems to me they are behaving rather like delinquent children. They are being wasteful and tragically destructive, and, indeed, often too well, without really achieving any end."

To kill leaders of the community, like the director of Dupont, is almost to say the least, as he was presumably, indirectly, helping to house, feed and clothe a lot of Irish families.

My husband had, I know, over the years unstintingly tried to cure many Irish patients of cancer, as

well as lecturing and teaching Irish students. Do their deaths make any common sense? It certainly causes innocent people, like ourselves, months if not years of numb, gaping sadness.

As an oral postscript Mrs Hamilton Fairley added: "I cannot feel barred for the people who killed Gordon. I can hardly feel anything any more. The children have taken it very hard; their father was such a loving, caring family man."

From Campden Hill Square one has to travel only a mile or so east to Balcombe Street, St Marylebone, to become aware of the six-day siege in the first-floor living room of Mr and Mrs John Matthews's flat.

On the night of December 6, 1975, Mr Matthews, aged 56, a Post Office supervisor, and his wife, Sheila, aged 53, decided to spend a quiet evening at home watching television. He said:

"Suddenly there was a terrific commotion outside and I opened the balcony door. I saw police cars up and down the street and some

officers were hiding behind their vehicles. One of them shouted to me to go back inside as there were armed men about."

I did not hang about, and went inside. There was a ring at the door and I thought it was the police. I opened it. Instead it was these four young Irishmen, all carrying hand guns and one also had a machine gun.

For the next six days and five nights I was forced to lie on the sofa while my wife was across the room curled up on an armchair. The children were in the room with me. But they did not go to bed because she was getting badly ill. Whenever any food was lowered to us the four men forced us to eat half of it first in case the police had drugged or poisoned it. They were not taking any chances.

A strange thing happened while we were kept prisoner in our own flat: my wife and I found that we could communicate without actually speaking to each other. We found that we were passing messages to each other with the merest flicker of an eyelid, or an unnoted movement of the body, which, of course, meant nothing to the others in the room.

Relaxing, ironically, on the same leather settee, Mr Matthews added:

"I can say it now, I feel sorry for those four young men. I cannot say the same for the thugs who sent them to Britain. They are the ones who should be in the dock."

We tried to talk to the gunmen and discover why they were treating us in such a way. That was almost fatal, because they became

very angry and began blaming us, the British, for their about everything that had gone wrong in the world since time began.

We did not dare to try to reason with them after that. Just speaking when we were spoken to. They did not treat us in any physical way, in fact most of the time they behaved as if we were not there.

Sheila developed chronic back trouble while she was trussed up in the armchair and after the field telephone was lowered by the police from the upstairs flat some pain-killing drugs were passed in to help her. But they did no good because she was getting badly ill. Whenever any food was lowered to us the four men forced us to eat half of it first in case the police had drugged or poisoned it. They were not taking any chances.

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Where programmes clashed or came on when people were out or asleep, video-cassette machines would record them; or a clock might be set once a



Mrs Hamilton-Fairley, widow of the cancer expert killed by a bomb, and Mr John Matthews, one of the Balcombe Street hostages.

## Daughter is jailed for two years in suicide case

A woman who tried to persuade her elderly mother to commit suicide was sentenced at Lewes Crown Court, Sussex, yesterday, to two years' imprisonment.

Mrs Yolande McShane, aged 60, sat in the dock with her head on her hands and then shook her head towards the jury.

Mr Justice Purchas told Mrs McShane that he believed she had been motivated by the desire to benefit from a will.

Such is the seriousness of this offence in the eyes of the law and in public opinion and so frequent and private are the opportunities upon which avaricious people can fall into temptation, I must make abundantly clear that for such crimes penalties must be severe," he said.

Mrs McShane, a grandmother, had been found guilty of trying to persuade her mother, aged 86, to commit suicide. The jury was told that Mrs McShane owed more than £200,000 and had wanted her mother to die so that she might inherit her money.

Mrs McShane, of Lantivory Manor, Lantivory, Cornwall, was convicted of attempting to aid, abet, counsel or procure the suicide of her mother, Mrs Edith Mott. The jury also found her guilty of attempting to cause her mother to take a drug so as to endanger her life.

The jury reached its verdicts after seeing a film secretly made by the police which recorded a visit by Mrs McShane to her mother. During a visit to a nursing home near Bude, Cornwall, Mrs McShane gave her ailing mother a bunch of flowers and some Nembutal sleeping tablets to kill herself.

Mr Gerard Wright, QC, for the defence of Mrs McShane, said she was in very poor health. It was Mrs Mott herself who first put forward the idea of suicide and said that her death would benefit her two daughters.

"I do hope that in the course of this case the evidence has not justified the suggestion that whatever was done was done for money, just for greed, and no other purpose," he said.

Later, Mrs Pamela Large, who reported Mrs McShane, who sister to the police, said she was not considering seeing her solicitor about the will.

## Airport-security costs will push up fares

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Air fares from Britain will rise by about £1 a head next year as a result of a government decision to stop paying for airport security.

The cost of security, now some £12m a year, is expected to rise to at least £14m by 1978. The Department of Trade has told airlines and the British Airports Authority that it will not be responsible after 1977, and the money will have to be recovered from passengers, rather than from the taxpayer.

Airlines and the Tour Operators Study Group have written to the department in the past few days expressing opposition. The study group, for example, has said that the concept of charging for any one part of airport services in isolation is not acceptable.

The group also argues that the responsibility for the security of the United Kingdom lies with the Government and should therefore remain a charge on the Exchequer. Airport security, it says, concerns not only the passenger but also the airlines and commercial organizations operating at airports.

The government proposals are seen by the tour operators as further evidence for the view held by many in the aviation industry that air passengers are "capable of infinite mulcting."

Consultations between the department and the travel industry on the proposed new scale of charges are continuing, and a policy statement is not expected from the government side for at least two months.

The policy change will need legislation, and the levy is not expected to come into force for at least a year.

## City to shut district law centre

By Our Legal Correspondent

Birmingham City Council has decided to close an independent law centre which, last year, handled more than three thousand cases in one of the main districts of deprivation.

The council has told the centre at Salter's, east Birmingham, that it will not be applying for an urban aid grant to enable it to continue its work. The decision has been criticized by community workers in the area and by the Law Centres Working group, which represents all independent law centres in the country.

The council, which has given no specific reason for its decision, has suggested that the legal work done at Salter's should be done by Small Heath Community Law Centre.

That suggestion has been rejected by community workers and lawyers in both areas, who maintain that although the two areas are next to each other, they are separate communities with different identities and needs.

## Less crime in Devon

The number of crimes committed in the south-west last year fell by 408 to 37,760, Mr John Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, said.

## New rabies curbs proposed

By Hugh Clavton

Ministers said yesterday that they wanted new powers to keep Britain free of rabies. An order is to be laid allowing the police to destroy animals that are landed illegally or not properly confined to ships in British ports and to ban native persons from carrying animals from abroad.

Conditions under which foreign animals are kept in ships will be defined more carefully. Ministers believe that the slightest chance of a ship-borne animal escaping to shore must be eliminated.

Mr Gavin Strang, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said: "It is not possible to keep rabies out of Britain."

The Criminal Law Bill contained a provision for fines of £1,000 in magistrates' courts against the present limit of £400. Mr Strang said 125 prosecutions last year had led to five prison sentences and fines averaging £214.

There were three thousand reported cases of rabies in France last year, a rise of half on 1975. Ministers had ruled out giving magistrates discretion to order the destruction of healthy animals owned by those convicted of illegal imports, he said.

## Helmets and screens in all rooms for TV after 1984

By Kenneth Gosling

Television after 1984 might be provided on screens in every room with everybody listening through some kind of comfortable space helmet.

Sir Brian Young, director general of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said yesterday. He was giving the annual Chelsea Lecture at Chelsea College, London.

No technical difficulty was involved, he said. Every room would have large, thin screens on the walls, turned or tilted towards each viewer. They would be adjusted for channel and volume at the touch of a button on a small box beside each armchair. Each would present a large picture of superb resolution and steadiness and with total colour fidelity. Sound would come through loudspeakers or by "space helmet" to the individual viewer. In either case it would be stereo or "surround" sound.

Where programmes clashed or came on when people were out or asleep, video-cassette machines would record them; or a clock might be set once a

## 'Poorer school progress by children in care

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Local authorities should concentrate much more on preventing children from going into care because the experience may have damaging long-term effects on their progress in school. That is the conclusion of a study by the National Children's Bureau.

The study is based on the nationally representative sample of children who are being surveyed at regular intervals by the National Child Development Study. The main study covers all children born in Britain in a single week in 1958.

The study urges local authorities to do more to prevent children from going into care, particularly at early ages, even when it is as low social class, poor housing were

The study urges local authorities to do more to prevent children from going into care, particularly at early ages, even when it is as low social class, poor housing were

## £19,750 for asbestos Commission

By Arthur James Heritage

of Ashford Road, Faversham, Kent, was awarded £19,750 agreed damages and costs in the High Court yesterday for the effects of asbestososis which he contracted while working on power-station construction projects.

Mr Justice Byrne judgment by con John Brown Land The Sanctuary, W whom Mr Heritage played, and ag national Combustion Wheeler John Bro

Mr Justice Byrne judgment by con John Brown Land The Sanctuary, W whom Mr Heritage played, and ag national Combustion Wheeler John Bro

## University sit-in is called off

A sit-in yesterday by members of the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs employed by Birmingham University, who have been on strike for 22 weeks, was called off after talks with union officials.

The dispute, involving 20 technicians, is over the interpretation of a national agreement about holiday entitlement.

## Wartime refugees living like hermits

By Michael Horsnell

Up to a thousand of the quarter of a million refugees who settled in Britain after the Second World War might be in desperate need of help as they enter old age, the British Red Cross Society said yesterday.

About 50,000 are now in their seventies and some of those, still deeply disturbed by their experiences in Nazi concentration camps, have become isolated in the community.

## EEC po

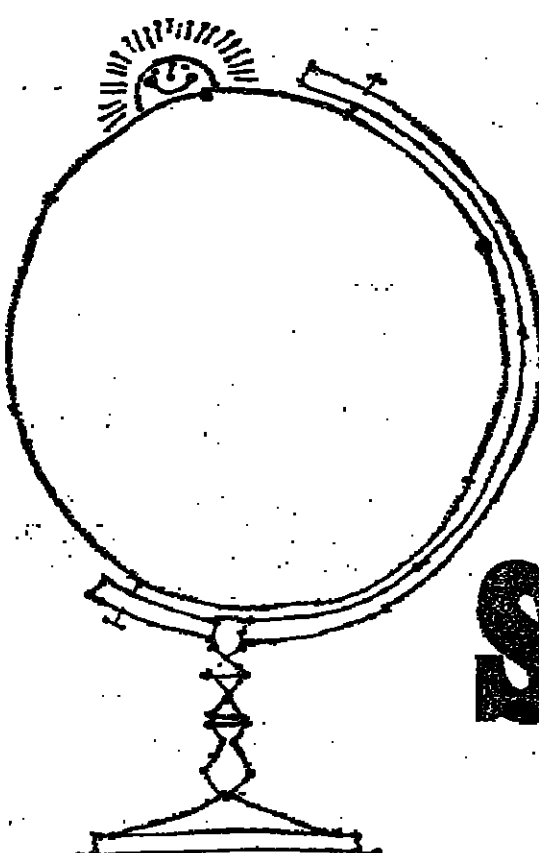
By Bruce Berland

that on the basis of the fact that the Commission has decided to open a new round of negotiations with the United Kingdom, the British Government has decided to open a new round of negotiations with the United Kingdom.

that on the basis of the fact that the Commission has decided to open a new round of negotiations with the United Kingdom, the British Government has decided to open a new round of negotiations with the United Kingdom.

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# SWITZERLAND

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ST EUROPE



Queen Sophia of Spain in the Vatican yesterday as King Juan Carlos looks on.

## ne praise King n Carlos

for Nichols  
Juan Carlos told the  
by that Spaniards "pas-

sionately love liberty", family  
ties and the historic traditions  
of their religion.  
The visit to Italy of the King  
and Queen Sophia is taking  
place in an atmosphere of re-  
markable cordiality. The left-  
wing Rome newspaper *La*  
*Repubblica* comments today that  
the Spanish King "is winning  
the respect of Europe" and  
that as little as six or seven  
months ago this visit to Italy

would have seemed out of the  
question.  
"In seven months the scene  
has so changed that not only  
the Vatican but the Quirinal  
Palace has been opened to the  
King without fear of accusations  
from the democratic forces of  
receiving a usurper of a  
sovereignty which has still not  
been finally restored to the  
people", it declared.  
The King and the Pope were

together for more than an hour.  
There is no doubt that they  
talked about the political  
changes in Spain and the recent  
agreement on modifications in  
financial relations between the  
Holy See and Madrid.  
This was the first visit of a  
Spanish head of state to Italy  
and the Vatican for 54 years.  
After the papal audience, the  
King and Queen saw Cardinal  
Villot, the Secretary of State.

## Soares satisfied with entry ks terms set by Community

hard Wigg  
eb 10  
to Soares, the Portu-  
gue Minister, indicated  
he was satisfied with  
decision by the Coun-  
cils to give a quali-  
fied "yes" to Portugal's  
request to join the EEC.  
The Prime Minister in-  
dicated that he was  
satisfied with the EEC  
decision. He said in an  
interview with *Times*.  
The EEC Ministers had  
set aside such associa-  
tion as a consideration  
of considering an  
for full member-  
that was progress.  
He made it clear that  
on provided a satis-  
faction for his country  
of the Nine, beginning  
on Monday, during  
will sound out opinion  
rugal decides formu-  
lating.  
f the ministers' con-  
t was found to be  
raised by Portugal's  
negotiations proper-  
n meant a risk that  
ght drag on indefi-  
Soares replied: "I  
because it is in the  
f the Community, just  
Portugal, that these  
resolved in a serious  
or Portuguese democ-  
ratic the entry occurs  
ertain timespan."  
less Portugal was  
ed to seek to rush  
the Greeks originally  
poke of the negotia-  
ing the time they

Dr Vitor Constancio, the  
chairman of the experts' team  
dealing with Portugal's approach  
to the EEC, who will accom-  
pany Dr Soares on his tour,  
said he envisaged the negotia-  
tions going on until 1980 or  
1981.  
The Prime Minister indicated  
that in the event of a Portu-  
guese application for mem-  
bership being lodged after his  
tour, he expected all this year  
to be taken up with preliminary  
inquiries and studies by both  
the Community and Portugal.  
The transitional period until  
Portugal would be "in a con-  
dition to assume the obligations  
stemming from the Treaty of  
Rome", might be "10 years or  
more".  
Dr Soares struck a relatively  
optimistic note about the  
stability of Portugal's new  
democratic institutions. "If  
Europe does not shut the door  
in our face, if on the contrary  
we were rejected, then that  
could have very grave conse-  
quences".  
He was willing to give assur-  
ances in the capitals of the Nine  
on future investment guaran-  
tees and compensation for  
nationalization, but not for  
those nationalizations declared  
irrevocable under the Portu-  
guese constitution.  
There was no conflict be-  
tween the broad principles of  
economic policy in Portugal  
and those in the EEC coun-  
tries.  
Explaining his Government's  
basic philosophy behind apply-  
ing, Dr Soares said: "The

Common Market offers us a big  
endeavour, obliging us to  
change structures and to catch  
up on the backwardness we  
suffer from as regards the rest  
of Europe."  
"We do not think of resolu-  
ing our problems simply by  
joining. We shall have to solve  
them with our own efforts. But  
Portugal has no other valid  
project but to transform itself  
into a member of the EEC with  
all the dignity that can represent  
unless we are willing to be a  
kind of Puerto Rico or Cuba  
of Europe".  
Asked about the reluctance  
of the Benelux countries to a  
widening of the EEC, Dr  
Soares argued their fears were  
not justified.  
"I am a pragmatist but I am  
also a partisan of a true  
Europe and not an association  
of states only based on  
economic progress or economic  
wishes."  
"I am for a political Europe  
with real supranational insti-  
tutions. I reckon the entry of  
countries from southern Europe  
would represent an enormous  
contribution to such a Europe".  
Dr Soares said he under-  
stood Ireland, reported to be  
reluctant about admitting Portu-  
gal because there might be  
less to share out from  
regional, social and guidance  
funds, wished to defend ad-  
vantages for its own people.  
"But in a community of free  
nations there must be a cer-  
tain solidarity which should  
come before strictly national  
and egoistic criteria", he said.

## Nine under Arab pressure in Tunis

Tunis, Feb 10. — Arab  
pressure mounted in Tunis  
today on the EEC to adopt more  
positive positions on the Arab-  
Israeli dispute.  
Mr Ismael Khellil, the  
Tunisian delegate, warned the  
EEC that there could be no  
progress towards greater  
economic cooperation between  
Europe and the Arabs if there  
was no progress on political  
questions.  
He was opening a three-day  
session of the general commit-  
tee of the Euro-Arab dialogue  
between 20 Arab countries and  
the Nine.  
Mr Khellil's speech was  
devoted mainly to the Middle  
East dispute criticizing "the  
obstinacy of Israel in continuing  
its occupation of Arab terri-  
tories". Some powers en-  
couraged this occupation while  
others kept silent about it, he  
said.  
He expressed disappointment  
over the EEC's agreements with  
Israel which were concluded on  
Tuesday, and were helping  
Israel's development.  
The EEC had not under-  
taken any action to carry out  
two of the principles accepted  
during a session of the dialogue  
in Luxembourg last May, he  
said. These were that it was  
inadmissible to acquire terri-  
tory by force and the need for  
the evacuation of occupied  
territories.  
Mr Khellil suggested that  
there should be Euro-Arab con-  
sultations at the United  
Nations.  
Replying for the EEC, Mr  
Richard Faber, of Britain, em-  
phasized the economic impor-  
tance the Community attached  
to the Euro-Arab dialogue and  
expressed satisfaction over the  
improvement in prospects for  
peace in the Middle East.  
He recalled that the EEC  
accepted the right of Middle  
East countries to live within  
safe frontiers and recognized  
the legitimate rights of the Pal-  
estinians, including that to ex-  
press effectively their national  
identity.  
Referring to the EEC agree-  
ments with Israel, Mr Faber  
emphasized that the Community  
wished to be the sole judge of  
its relations with Israel.  
The committee then turned to  
questions concerning technical  
cooperation between Europe  
and the Arab world.—Agence  
France-Presse.

## ins pledge not to head ine' Commission

d Cross  
g, Feb 10  
more confident  
is since he took up  
ment, as president  
European Commission  
beginning of the year,  
kins said today that  
s colleagues would  
aid in using their  
influence in the Euro-  
unity.  
not come here to  
or a supine Commis-  
sion members of the  
liament in Luxem-  
boly suggestions the  
would come for-  
tunately prepared  
which had "sufficient  
ess and relevance"  
at they could not be  
ved or rejected by  
vernments.  
has was replying to  
y some MPs of his  
of the Community  
ich he delivered to  
ment earlier this  
seven-hour debate  
y on Mr Jenkins's  
any members, with  
e exception of his  
ialists, seemed to  
the president had  
g on analysis but  
specific remedies to  
Community a new  
e.  
sell Johnston, the  
mber of Inverness,

summed up the reactions of  
many of his colleagues in say-  
ing that listening to the presi-  
dent on Tuesday had been a  
strange experience. He had  
found nothing to criticize even  
when he had read and reread  
Mr Jenkins's remarks. Never-  
theless it was odd that Mr  
Jenkins had managed to speak  
for nearly an hour without  
either angering or delighting  
anyone in the House.  
There had been reason to  
suppose that a president like  
Mr Jenkins, who strongly sup-  
ported a political role for the  
Commission, might come for-  
ward with some specific targets  
for action or some forceful new  
initiatives.  
The Christian Democrats  
were particularly critical of Mr  
Jenkins's failure to present  
"complete and coherent" poli-  
cies for the future. He had  
simply listed problems, like the  
present disarray of the common  
agricultural policy, without giv-  
ing any clear idea of how to  
resolve them, Mr Alfred  
Bertrand, their Belgian spokes-  
man said.  
By contrast, Herr Ludwig  
Fellermaier, the West German  
spokesman for the Socialist  
group, maintained that Mr Jen-  
kins had been right to adopt  
a pragmatic approach to the  
future and had not attempted  
to reach for the stars.  
Parliamentary report, page 8

## Woman admits spying for Russia since 1949

Oslo, Feb 10.—A woman  
clerk in the Norwegian  
Foreign Ministry has confessed  
that she spied for the Soviet  
Union for nearly 30 years, Mr  
L. J. Dohrenfeld, the Attorney  
General, announced here today.  
Miss Gunvor Galtung Haavik,  
aged 65, was arrested here  
two weeks ago. Five Soviet  
diplomats and a Soviet jour-  
nalist were expelled from Norway  
after she was detained.  
Mr Dohrenfeld said Miss  
Haavik had confessed that she  
was recruited as a spy in 1949  
when she was working in the  
Norwegian Embassy in Mos-  
cow. After she returned to Oslo  
in 1950, she handed over  
papers from the Foreign  
Ministry and was paid for her  
espionage activities.—Reuter.

## Portugal coup plot alleged

Oporto, Feb 10.—Police today  
announced that 17 men sus-  
pected of plotting to overthrow the  
Portuguese Government had  
been arrested and charged with  
attempted bank robbery.  
Police alleged that the men,  
led by Senhor Joao Stuart de  
Vasconcelos, a prominent mili-  
tant, had recently tried to rob  
the Bank of Portugal in Oporto  
to finance its plans. Numerous  
weapons had been confiscated  
Reuter.

## Socialist party first to register

Madrid, Feb 10.—Spain's  
leftist opposition, outlawed for  
nearly 40 years under the  
Franco regime, moved quickly  
today to claim legality under  
a new law allowing them a role  
in the country's political life.  
The most militant socialist  
group, the Socialist Workers'  
Party, became the first politi-  
cal organization to file its  
statutes with the Justice Minis-  
try. The Spanish Communist  
Party said it would follow suit

## announced ency ism prize

b 10.—The Associa-  
tions of Bernard  
a senior Agency  
se editor, who died  
mb attack on his  
June, 1975, today  
the composition of  
which will make an  
ard for news-agency  
will be presided  
former AFP chair-  
managing director, M.  
and will include  
Bujon, president of  
al Federation of the  
ss: Mr Charles Har-  
is Correspondent of  
Mr Pierre Salinger,  
White House spokes-  
man, Senator Maurice  
of the Académie  
will make its first  
June 14.

## EEC poll encouraging to Spain

By Roger Berthoud  
Switzerland, Spain and Aus-  
tria are, in that order, the  
countries which people in the  
EEC would most like to see  
join the Community. The  
British and the Irish are least  
enthusiastic of all about fur-  
ther enlargement, particularly  
about the idea of Greece, Portu-  
gal or Turkey joining.  
This is the startling finding  
of an unpublished poll carried  
out last November on behalf  
of the European Commission in  
Brussels, which has been passed  
to *The Times*. It suggests the  
Labour Government's policy of  
welcoming former dictatorships  
from the Mediterranean as  
potential EEC members runs  
contrary to public opinion.  
Those questioned—some 9,000  
including 1,200 in Britain—were  
shown a list of the present  
nine member states, and asked  
simply: "Are there other Euro-

pean countries which you would  
like to see joining the European  
Community soon? (Which?)  
More than half (53 per cent)  
did not answer with Britons  
and Irish most reluctant. The  
West Germans were the most  
responsive, followed by Luxem-  
bourg and Italians.  
The following table shows the  
countries and the percentage of  
people throughout the Nine who  
wanted them to join the EEC.  
The third column is the result  
of the British poll.

Switzerland	70	42
Spain	44	33
Austria	39	21
Greece	24	13
Portugal	22	13
Turkey	10	7
Others (mainly Scandinavian)	29	49

Switzerland and Austria,  
neither considered to be a

potential applicant, were top  
in West Germany and Luxem-  
bourg, probably for geo-  
graphical, linguistic and cultural  
reasons. Switzerland and Spain  
were top in both Italy and  
Belgium. Switzerland was much  
the most popular country  
in Britain, while Spain was the  
favourite in France and Ire-  
land, no doubt partly for reli-  
gious reasons. The Danes under-  
standably favoured Norway and  
Sweden, as did many in Britain,  
Holland and Ireland.  
This result is mildly encour-  
aging for Spain, which has not  
yet applied for membership, but  
is expected to do so after this  
year's general election. It is dis-  
couraging for Greece, with  
whom entry negotiations have  
already begun, and for Portugal,  
which may apply shortly.  
Turkish membership is only a  
long-term possibility.

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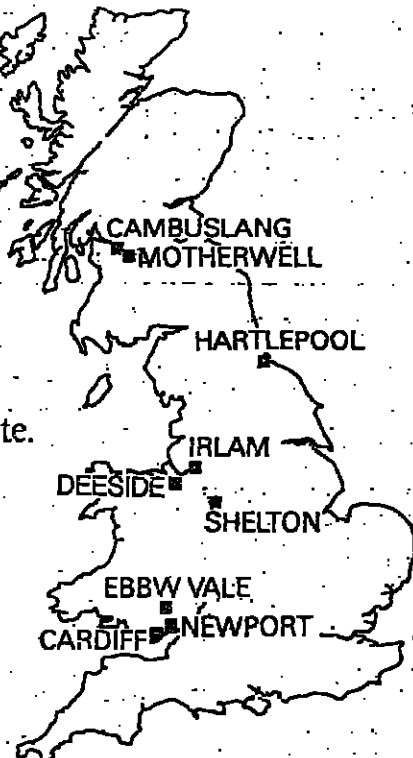
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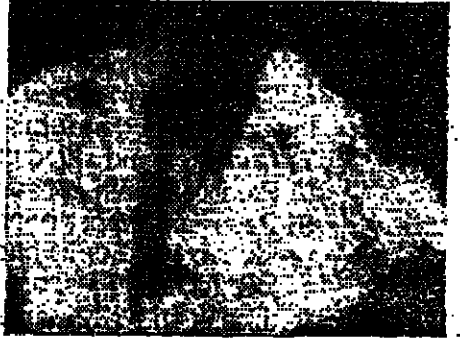
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## EST EUROPE

## France warms to quiet Prime Minister in battle against inflation

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Feb 10

M Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, has reason to be satisfied. His anti-inflation plan which he has doggedly defended for the past four months is beginning to show results.

His own quiet, determined personality and his competence have slowly but surely made their mark on public opinion. The economic expert of a couple of months ago has turned into a political figure of the front rank.

Some observers already consider that he, not President Giscard d'Estaing, represents the government's best hope of resisting the challenge of M Jacques Chirac, leader of the Gaullist Rassemblement and a former Prime Minister.

This is confirmed by the latest Sofres opinion poll. It shows that in the popularity stakes, M Barre has jumped to second place among the personalities of the Government majority with 47 points. This is a rise of 13 points since December.

He now comes immediately after Mme Veil, the Health Minister, who has topped the poll for months, and before Mme Giroud, the State Secretary for Culture, hitherto the runner-up.

The Prime Minister's main support comes from the Centre-right and Independent Republicans. The Gaullists are somewhat less enthusiastic about him. But some Socialists have been won over, notably those who jib at voting for a Communist in the second ballot of elections.

The reason for M Barre's success is not far to seek. The despondency about the future at the end of last year has given way to a revival of optimism. The polls show that 65 per cent of the people are now satisfied with their living conditions, against 58 per cent in December.

The main preoccupation of Frenchmen, according to the poll, remains rising prices, but it is less acute than it was. On the other hand, unemployment is catching up as a cause for concern.

Of those polled 29 per cent think the Government's price freeze is effective against 11 per cent in December. But 66 per cent still regard it as ineffective.

President Giscard d'Estaing benefits from the improved political and economic climate. His stock as a defender of public liberties has risen as a result of his repeated assertion that he will stay in office to defend those liberties if the left wins the parliamentary elections next year.

Even his reputation as a reformer has improved. But the most spectacular change is that whereas in December a majority distrusted his conduct of economic policy, the reverse is now the case.

Le Figaro, which published the findings of the poll, notes that M Chirac has lost ground since December and suggests that perhaps he has chosen the wrong fight in seeking election as mayor of Paris. "Frenchmen show signs of thinking that the real battle is being fought over prices and not over the Paris town hall."

Hugh Clayton, page 12

## OVERSEAS

## Fairness of Delhi plot trial challenged

From Kuldip Nayyar  
Delhi, Feb 10

Mr George Fernandes, the Socialist leader, told a Delhi magistrate today that he and his colleagues were not being given a fair trial. They had not been allowed to meet their lawyers for seven and a half months after their arrest.

Mr Fernandes and 24 other defendants are being tried on charges of having entered "into a well-planned and deep-rooted criminal conspiracy to overthrow by criminal force the central Government and to commit various offences".

Mr Fernandes claimed that in spite of the recovery of gelignite sticks and subversive literature from the accused in Delhi and elsewhere, the prosecution had admitted that "no direct evidence was available to establish that it was Mr Fernandes who was the master brain behind the conspiracy".

He accused the state of having used "its coercive apparatus to create evidence" against him and his colleagues. He said that while the state was telling the world about the success of Mrs Gandhi's rule, he had been engaged in organising an underground resistance movement together with colleagues, who valued freedom.

Mr C. G. K. Reddy, another defendant said: "All the rights of our people to liberty, to happiness, to life itself were taken away by one individual, her family, and the small coterie surrounding her."

The Janata Party, a coalition of four opposition parties, issued its election manifesto today, which leans heavily on Gandhian philosophy and promises an "open government in a free society". It pledges to restore fundamental rights to citizens and preserve the independence of the judiciary and the press.

Mr Charan Singh, the party's deputy chairman and former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, said that all presidential orders and constitutional amendments passed during the emergency would be repealed. His party believed in individual freedom.

The manifesto emphasizes the primacy of agriculture and promises that the party will move people from the cities to the countryside.

It supports the family planning programme but without compulsion. A civil rights commission is to be set up to ensure equal rights to minorities.

A presidential order set the election for the central Parliament for March 16. Elections for a number of state Assemblies including that of Kerala will be on March 18 and 19.

## Seven Zanzibar plot death sentences confirmed

Dar es Salaam, Feb 10.—The Zanzibar Supreme Court has upheld death sentences on seven people condemned for plotting the abortive 1972 coup in which Shaikh Abeid Karume, the island's leader, was assassinated.

Four of them, including the alleged leader of the coup, Abdulrahman Mohamed Babu, former Zanzibar Economic Affairs Minister, were tried in their absence. They are in detention on the Tanzanian mainland.

The Supreme Court commuted death sentences on 17 defendants to prison terms of from 30 to 35 years and reduced long prison sentences on another 10 of those convicted in connexion with the coup.

## Mozambique railway network target for bombers Rhodesian raids across border may bring Cubans into battle

From Nicholas Ashford  
Maputo, Feb 10

The increase in the number of Rhodesian incursions into Mozambique, ostensibly against guerrilla camps, may force the Mozambique Government to seek outside help in defending its borders.

The most recent attack took place a week ago, on the eve of the Frelimo Party congress in Maputo. A heavily armed Rhodesian force was said to have attacked a train between Maputo and Chitanga, a town in the southern Gaza province, killing two civilians and injuring four.

There was another attack about the same time in the western-central province of Tete. The force was said to have penetrated to within eight miles of Tete City and temporarily cut the road link between there and the Cabora Bassa hydro-electric project 80 miles to the west. A road bridge between Cabora Bassa and the coast had already been destroyed in a raid last year.

Two other major incursions have been reported during the last six weeks. One, was at the end of December, when the Rhodesian Air Force was said to have bombed the area

around Chitanga near the Rhodesian border. Another raid took place in the same region last month when a Rhodesian Air Force Canberra bomber was shot down. Parts of the wreckage are now on display in Maputo.

The attacks are taking a heavy toll on the country's rail system. Lines have been blown up and many locomotives have been damaged. The main railway repair yard in the capital is filled with damaged engines.

According to the Voice of Free Africa, an anti-Frelimo radio station broadcasting from UNTA, many of the attacks have been carried out by units belonging to the Mozambique United Front (Fumo) and not by the Rhodesian armed forces.

However, Western diplomats here are convinced that while some black and white Mozambican exiles, including former Portuguese Army soldiers, are taking part in the attacks, all military activities in the border area are being coordinated from inside Rhodesia.

"No country can allow itself to go on being raped like this," one diplomat said. "Eventually Mozambique will have to seek outside help."

The question is where will the assistance come from? At

present Frelimo's "popular forces" are being supported by some Tanzanian units, probably numbering about 500 men. There are also a few Cuban, Soviet and other East European advisers.

Recently large quantities of arms have been unloaded in Mozambican ports, mainly in Nacala in the north but also in Beira and Maputo. But there are few Mozambicans or Rhodesian guerrillas sufficiently well trained to operate sophisticated weapons.

One answer could be the formation of a post-African army to attack Mozambique, using experienced Nigerian troops as the nucleus. But the problems of creating such a force would be enormous.

"I fear the Mozambicans will have to accept the inevitable," the diplomat remarked, "which means looking to Cuba or some similar country for help."

Meanwhile, the situation in the border area has been further unsettled by outbreaks of factional fighting in the guerrilla camps. It is understood that some camps have become little more than personal fiefdoms of the local guerrilla commanders and that fighters belonging to rival factions have either been killed or driven out.

## Dallas plans six Concorde trips a week

From Our Own Correspondent  
Washington, Feb 10

A Concorde service linking Europe to Dallas, Texas, was formally announced by Braniff Airways today after details were disclosed in The Times.

Mr Harding Lawrence, Braniff's chairman, said he hoped government approval would come in time for the service to start this summer.

The fare for the Dallas-Washington section, which Braniff would operate at subsonic speeds in extension of the British Airways and Air France super-sonic flights from London and Paris, would be 10 per cent above current first-class fares.

The proposed Dallas to London single fare would be \$896 (about £525).

There would be three flights a week with each airline. Because of the time difference, passengers leaving Paris would arrive in Dallas at almost the same local time as they left.

The main advantage to passengers is that they would not have to change airlines in Washington, as they do now, to catch a Concorde flight to Europe. Time saving between Paris and Washington is negligible.

## Plea to UN by descendants of Bounty mutineers

Sydney, Feb 10.—Leaders of a tiny South Pacific island, first inhabited by descendants of the Bounty mutineers, have called on the United Nations to protect them from being integrated politically with Australia.

The 1,600 people of Norfolk Island, yesterday posted their appeal to the United Nations committee of 24 on decolonization. They sent copies to Dr Waldheim, the Secretary-General, and the Australian Government.

Norfolk, a non-self governing territory administered from Canberra, is a lush sub-tropical island about 1,000 miles east of Australia.

An Australian royal commission has recommended that the islanders be included in the electorate of Canberra, so they can be represented in the Australian federal Parliament.

The islanders would become Australian electors liable to the same taxes as Australians.

Announcing the appeal to the United Nations, Mr William Bligher, the senior councillor, said in a radio broadcast that the great majority of the people preferred their present status, closely linked to Australia, but with a locally-elected authority governing island affairs.

Australia had declined to apply United Nations principles of self-determination and was unwilling to allow the islanders a referendum on the question.

He said most of the islanders were descended from the 10 inhabitants of Pitcairn, farther east in the Pacific, where the crew of the Royal Navy ship Bounty settled after their mutiny in 1789 against Captain William Bligh.—Reuter.

## Boxer given new life term for 1966 murders

Paterson, New Jersey, Feb 10.—The boxer, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, who was convicted at a fresh trial of murdering three people here in 1966, has been sentenced to three terms of life imprisonment.

Mr Carter, aged 39, once a contender for the world middleweight title, and his sparring partner, John Artis, were granted the new trial after it was disclosed that the prosecution withheld evidence from the defence at their 1967 trial, when they were also found guilty.

Their cause was backed by a national campaign of fund-raising drives. Supporters included Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, the singers.

Before sentence was passed, Mr Carter told the court that he and Mr Artis, who also received the life sentences, had been twice convicted of the murders because they were black. He compared their treatment in the Paterson area with the position of Jews in Hitler's Germany.

They were charged with killing three whites in a bar at a time of racial tension here following the murder of a black bar owner by a white.—Reuter.

## Mr Ian Smith happy with S Africa talks

From Our Correspondent  
Cape Town, Feb 10

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, flew back to Salisbury from Cape Town today after a three-hour meeting with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister.

He said at the airport: "We believe the talks will help us. The talks were very congenial and we tended to see things along the same lines."

Mr Smith said he hoped there would be new initiatives towards settling Rhodesia's future. He was ready and willing to listen and talk to anyone offering "constructive suggestions". If outside efforts to settle failed, the Rhodesian Government would continue working towards a settlement internally.

Our Salisbury Correspondent writes: The guerrilla war in Rhodesia has claimed another 41 more lives. A security force communiqué today said that since February 8, another 18 guerrillas had been killed. Four African women and four African men running with the guerrillas and actively assisting them had also been killed and five blacks had been shot dead by security forces while breaking the curfew in the operational area at night.

The statement said that guerrillas had murdered seven more African tribesmen and two tribeswomen in the operational area.

The interdenominational funeral today for the seven Roman Catholic missionaries murdered at St Paul's Mission, near Salisbury, last week, was marked here this morning when a small group of about five angry whites left the service and one man called out: "Why don't they arrest that black bastard?"

He was referring to comments made during the service by the senior African priest in Rhodesia, Father Isidore Chikore, who had associated himself with a

statement made the pre day by the Catholic Bishop Umtali, Mgr Lamont, who laid the responsibility for killings indirectly on the Rhodesian Government.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The Foreign Office now received the invitation from Rhodesia, reported in Times yesterday, inviting MP's to investigate massacre at St Paul's Mission. This is a matter Parliament to decide, a spokesman said yesterday. The Foreign Office did not think all-party delegation was to succeed in identifying responsible for the murder.

Our Washington Correspondent writes: Mr Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State, today to Congress to urge the of the Byrd Amendment, permits imports of chrome from Rhodesia.

Peter Strafford writes New York: Britain has a state trading organization, the Soviet Union and East European countries breaking sanctions and with Rhodesia. The trade carried out via three companies, all based in C which existed solely for ing cover for "a major British officials alleged.

Their accusations are listed in the latest report Security Council sanctions. The report says the accusation was categorically denied by Russia. At

Romanians, According to British trade mission, the British Enterprise, which is a tobacco and other agricultural commodities from Rhodesia imported chemicals, met agricultural requirement, trade was carried out through organizations Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Germany.

Charter

## Uganda calls in Britons to revive cattle ranches

From Judith Listowel  
Kampala, Feb 10

President Amin of Uganda is setting up the largest cattle ranches in Africa. He has invited British cattle experts to buy 3,000 head of cattle, mainly cows in calf, for the new ranch in the West Nile District. The cattle, costing £30m are to be bought in Britain and on the Continent.

The funds for this vast enterprise were donated by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The purpose is to provide sufficient milk, meat and cheese, for the 11 million Ugandans, and beef for export.

Uganda's economy reached rock-bottom 18 months ago. The hard, difficult ascent has begun and the great cattle scheme will mean an important step forward.

Several large cattle ranches have existed in Uganda for a long time, but in recent years the condition of the cattle has sadly deteriorated. Lack of expertise and minerals, and shortage of fodder are to be blamed.

The one exception is the Uganda Livestock Industries, at Acholi-Asswa, originally financed by the World Bank and now administered by Mr Robert Origel, an African cattleman. His need for fresh blood to renew his stock will now be satisfied from the newly imported beef bulls.

When finally developed, the cattle scheme will consist of 70 ranches: 40 in Kilak, West Nile district, 10 in the East Madi, and 20 more in the North Nile and West Madi districts.

Already delivered are 1,500 head of Boran breeding stock from Kenya.

Mr Peter Gaymer, who is in charge of the scheme, has had an unusual career. His father

took him out of school age of 14 because he was learning, and told him were wasting your time money. As of Monday start work on the farm the years, he became a farmer.

Someone had to be run the dairy project semi-derelect old ranch Gaymer is an Essex x knows all the good fa his county. Last Decer rang up Mr George and asked him who would be prepared to Uganda to administer t scheme.

Mr Magnay agreed i ple but before any were taken, the l came to see how he ning his own farm. Ti dly impressed and la Mr Gaymer flew Mr and two other Essex Kampala.

They then flew on new ranch of Pakwa Agot Afaya in the W District. Pakwach ranch 350 square miles, wi soil and plenty of w Magnay agreed to sign year contract.

In his view the l and breeding of 50,000 cattle, which will i timum milk yields at up to the Uganda clir take something like a c

Mr Magnay had an unprepared. At Bant market, in the Midl had seen Mr Jim Wat of the best cattleman land for this job. He to buy Friesians thr Watson. They are to out after being p teated and certified i calf. Their calves ar born in Uganda so a acclimatized.

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- 7) Ceramics and allied products;
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- 10) Paper products;
- 11) Books and publications;
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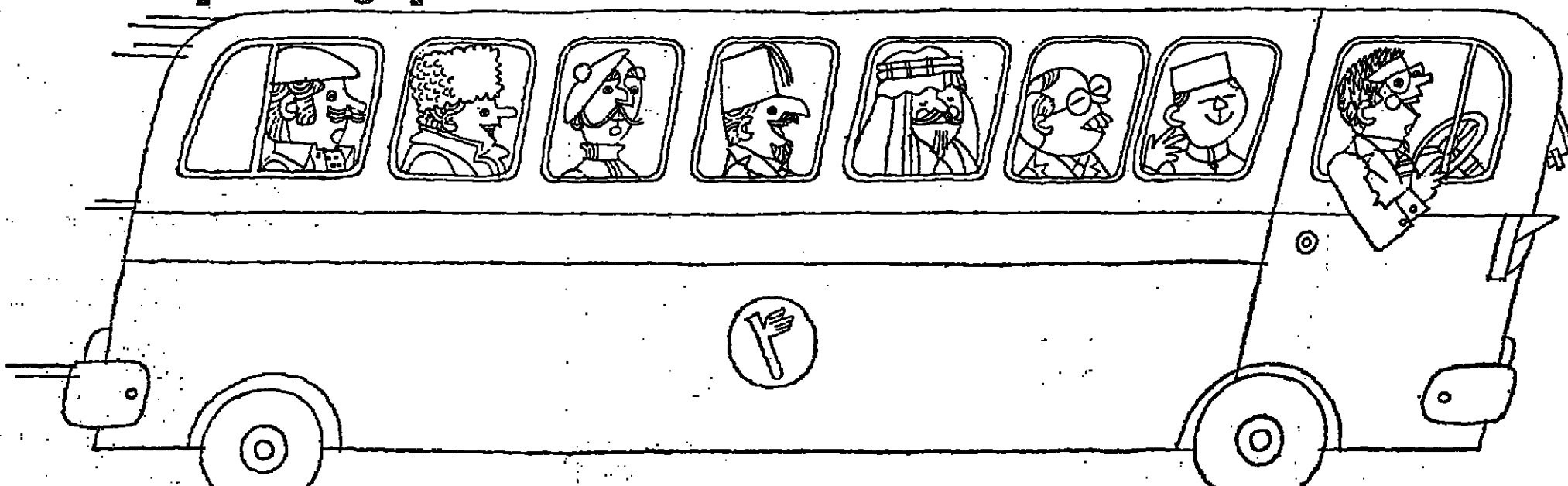
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## Dubcek support for Czechoslovak human rights group

Vienna, Feb 10.—Mr Alexander Dubcek, the ousted leader of the 1968 "Prague Spring" Government, has orally supported the Czechoslovak group behind the Charter 77 human rights manifesto, it was reported in Vienna today.

The Austrian Socialist Party newspaper, Arbeiter-Zeitung, quoted a friend of Mr Dubcek saying that he had not learnt of the contents of the charter until very late and had been unable to sign it because he lives under strict police surveillance in Bratislava. But he had agreed to indicate his support through an intermediary.

Mr Dubcek's verbal support for the charter was cited by its authors as proof that they were not isolated from their former comrades in the "Prague Spring" movement, the Arbeiter-Zeitung said.

In an open letter from Bucharest to the Czechoslovak dissidents published in Le Monde, Mr Goma said: "You, as the Poles, the East Germans, the Hungarians, the Bulgarians, live under Russian occupation. We Romanians live under Romanian occupation—ultimately more painful, more efficient than a foreign occupation."—Reuter.

Commons motion: More than 100 MPs of all parties have signed the Commons motion recognizing "the courage of the Czechoslovak signatories of Charter 77" and calling on the Prague Government to implement the Helsinki agreement.

of Mr Oldrich Cernik, the former Prime Minister.

However, Mr Cernik, under took an act of self-criticism in 1970, thus preventing his expulsion from the Czechoslovak Communist Party—Agence France-Presse and AP.

Prague: Mr Dubcek is reported to be working as an office clerk for a wine firm in Bratislava.

Last June his former private secretary, Mr Oldrich Jaros, tried to visit him but he said later that he had been physically prevented from doing so by Interior Ministry officials.

The Slovak newspaper Smeňa today singled out Professor Jan Patocka, one of the Charter 77 spokesmen, for criticism.

Agence France-Presse and AP, Paris: Mr Paul Goma, the Romanian author today came out in support of the Charter 77 movement and attacked the Romanian authorities.

In an open letter from Bucharest to the Czechoslovak dissidents published in Le Monde, Mr Goma said: "You, as the Poles, the East Germans, the Hungarians, the Bulgarians, live under Russian occupation. We Romanians live under Romanian occupation—ultimately more painful, more efficient than a foreign occupation."—Reuter.

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## Israel stays firm in Waldheim talks

From Eric Maraden Jerusalem, Feb 10

Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, held five hours of talks with Israeli leaders today, but although officials said the meetings had "cleared the air", they brought no progress on ways of moving towards a peaceful solution in the Middle East.

Dr Waldheim, who was reported to have been upset on the eve of his visit by a statement by Mr. Allon, the Foreign Minister, that the United Nations would be given no role to play in peace talks, was given a cordial welcome.

He held talks for three hours in the morning with Mr. Allon and his advisers and in the evening spent two hours with Israel's ministerial negotiating team: Mr. Rabin, the Prime Minister; Mr. Allon and Mr. Peres, the Defence Minister.

On leaving the Prime Minister's office, Dr Waldheim said he had been assured that Israel was ready to go to Geneva without delay under "certain circumstances". The problem of Palestinian participation had not been solved and he was unable to predict a date for the conference.

Mr. Allon made it clear that the "circumstances" were that the Geneva conference must be reconvened on the original basis of December, 1973, which meant that it must be between Israel and the Arab states in adherence to Security Council resolution 338.

Dr Waldheim reported on his talks with Arab leaders, saying that all of them had emphasized that the Palestine Liberation Organization must take part in the Geneva conference.

Mr. Yassir Arafat, PLO leader, had told him that the PLO was ready to set up an independent state alongside Israel.

Some observers were predicting tonight that when Dr Waldheim returned to Cairo tomorrow that he has been unable to find scope for compromise between the Arab and Israeli views on Palestinian representation at Geneva, the Arab states will call for a Security Council meeting on the subject.

Dr Waldheim arrived from Amman this morning in "UN One", a white-painted Fokker Friendship aircraft. He was making the first direct flight from the Jordanian capital to the Jerusalem airport at Kalandsia since it was captured in the Six-Day War in 1967.



Mr. Allon, wearing glasses, greets Dr. Waldheim in Jerusalem.

## Why Syrians stay near frontier Secret of Crusaders' castle in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk Nabatea, Southern Lebanon, Feb 10

Eight rain-soaked soldiers, their wellington boots covered in mud and their rifle ammunition clips swaddled in adhesive tape to keep out the damp, form the vanguard of the Syrian Army in southern Lebanon.

They stand at a road block two miles south-east of Nabatea—a rectangular township with a single restaurant, a row of old garages and dirty car repair shops and a few small farms—just six miles from the nearest barbed wire on the Israeli frontier.

Around them in the wet fields are a huddle of tents. An armoured troop carrier is parked on the hill to the north and just behind it is a Russian-built tank so smothered in tarpaulins that only the muzzle is visible.

The Israelis claim that the presence of Syrian troops so near their border represents a military threat; that is why they are insisting that the Syrians withdraw from Nabatea.

The Syrians, who form the bulwark of the 30,000 strong Arab League peacekeeping army in Lebanon, say that their presence is justified by the need to prevent the movement of heavy arms after the civil war and to stop the fighting which continues in the south between Palestinian-Leftist and Phalangist forces. The Palestinians and the Lebanese Arab Army, the dissident Muslim wing of the old national army which has somehow maintained its wartime identity here in the mountains, say nothing.

But the real reason behind the Syrian presence outside Nabatea, and for the silence of the Palestinians, may have nothing to do with the isolated battles which occasionally take place between here and the Israeli border.

The real reason might cause some surprise to the Israelis themselves. For it is just possible that the explanation for the Syrian advance into this part of southern Lebanon lies behind the walls of a half-ruined twelfth-century castle perched on a 1,000ft precipice above the Litani river.

One reason to doubt that element of doubt into one's suspicions for no one, not even the Syrians, has been allowed by the leftist armies to enter the Crusader ramparts of Beaufort Castle. Even before they reach the guard post of the Lebanese Arab Army on a lane off the road south-east of Nabatea, travellers are stopped by two more Syrian soldiers who turn them away.

These two soldiers are approximately four miles and a half from the Israeli border but they cannot see Israel from the lane because beyond them, through the drifting rain and the clouds, stand the western walls of the keep.

From this side, the castle looks accessible enough. Indeed, there are deep tracks through the mud across the fields as if heavy vehicles have recently been driven up towards the walls.

From the other side, a cliff face falls sheer down towards the Litani. So high is the castle that the Palestinians inside—and the Palestinians have always acknowledged that they keep a reconnaissance post there—can look across all of Mount Hermon.

This morning, however, it was possible to talk one's way through the Syrian roadblock on the lane and drive a mile and a half nearer to Beaufort Castle.

A man in the uniform of a lieutenant, who ruins the post from a draught in Beirut with a radio telephone that works in a crackling, unpredictable sort of way on a wooden table, explained that the Syrians still allowed him to drive in to the town of Nabatea for supplies but would not permit ammunition to be brought in.

Could one visit the castle? There was a conversation over the telephone. Under no circumstances, the lieutenant said. Besides, his most senior officer was not present. He was at a conference in Beirut.

The lieutenant did not want to talk about those wheel tracks through the fields, perhaps with good reason. Over the past two weeks President Sarkis and the commanders of the peacekeeping army in Beirut have been announcing almost daily that the private armies who were supposed to surrender their heavy guns at the end of the civil war had concealed a large part of their equipment.

If the Palestinians have chosen Beaufort Castle as one of their last arsenals, then they have picked a location whose history certainly matches the violence of the last two years in Lebanon.

William of Tyre records how Saladin laid siege to the enormous fortress in 1192, tricking its Christian defender into peace talks and then torturing him before the walls of the castle while the defenders watched helplessly.

## I text of Charter 77 manifesto

Following is the first text translation of the Charter 77, to reach its powers to check: their originators are responsible to no one but to the law; yet they have a decisive impact on the decision-making and executive organs of government.

Justice, social and political interest groups and other organizations of the other political parties, enterprises, factories, institutions, offices and so on, for whom these instructions have precedence even before the law.

Where organizations or individuals in the interpretation of the Charter 77 come into conflict with such directives, they cannot have recourse to any non-party authority, since none such exists in the country, and, consequently, a serious limitation of the Charter 77, which provides for freedom of association and forbids any restriction on its exercise, from article 25 on the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, and article 26 stipulating equal protection by the law without discrimination.

This state of affairs likewise prevents the exercise of the Charter 77, which provides for the unrestricted right to establish trade unions and other organizations to protect their economic and social interests, and from freely enjoying the right to strike provided for in clause 1 of article 8 in the second-mentioned covenant.

Further civic rights, including the explicit prohibition of "arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence" (article 12 of the first covenant), are seriously vitiated by the various forms of interference in the private life of citizens exercised by the state and its interior, for example by bugging telephones and houses, opening mail, following personal movements, and the use of secret networks of neighbourhood informers (often recruited by illicit threats or promises) and in other ways.

The ministry frequently interferes in employers' decisions, instigates acts of discrimination by various shades of opinion, brings weight to bear on the organs of justice and even orchestrates propaganda campaigns in the media. This activity is governed by no law and, being clandestine, affords the citizen no chance to defend himself.

In cases of prosecution on political grounds the investigative and judicial organs violate the rights of those charged and of those defending them, as guaranteed by article 14 of the first covenant and by Czechoslovak law. The prison treatment of those sentenced in such cases is often inhumane and many are subjected to discrimination.

Some of our people—either in private, at their places of work or by the only feasible public channel, the foreign media—have drawn attention to the systematic violation of human rights and democratic freedoms in specific cases. But their pleas have remained largely ignored or been made grounds for police investigation.

Responsibility for the maintenance of civic rights in our country naturally devolves in the first place on the police and state authorities. Yet not only on them: everyone bears his share of responsibility for the conditions that prevail and accordingly also for the observance of legally enshrined agreements, binding upon all individuals as well as upon societies.

It is this sense of co-responsibility, our belief in the importance of its conscious public acceptance and the general need to give it new and more effective expression that led us to the idea of creating Charter 77, whose inception we today publicly announce.

Charter 77 is a loose, informal and open association of people of various shades of opinion, faiths and professions united by the will to strive individually and collectively for the respecting of civic and human rights in our own country and throughout the world—rights accorded to all men by the two mentioned international covenants, by the Final Act of the Helsinki conference and by numerous other international documents opposing war, violence and social or political oppression, and which are comprehensively laid down in the UN Universal Charter of Human Rights.

Charter 77 springs from a back-

ground of friendship and solidarity among people who share our concern for those ideals that have inspired and continue to inspire their lives and their work.

Charter 77 is not an organization; it has no rules, permanent bodies or formal membership. It embraces everyone who agrees with its ideas and participates in its work. It does not form the basis for any oppositional political activity. Like many similar citizen initiatives in various countries, West and East, it seeks to promote the general public interest.

It does not aim, then, to set out its own platform of political or social reform or change, but within its own field of impact to conduct a constructive dialogue with the political and state authorities, particularly by drawing attention to individual cases where human and civic rights are violated, to document such grievances and suggest remedies, to make proposals of a more general character, and to reinforce such rights and machinery for protecting them, to act as intermediary in situations of conflict which may lead to violation of rights, and so forth.

By its symbolic name Charter 77 denotes that it has come into being at the start of a year claimed as "Political Prisoners' Year"—a year in which a conference in Belgrade is due to review the implementation of the obligations assumed at Helsinki.

As signatories, we hereby authorize Professor Dr Jan Patocka, Dr Václav Havel and Professor Dr Jiri Hájek to act as the spokesmen for the Charter. These spokesmen are endowed with full authority to represent it vis-à-vis state and other bodies, and the public at home and abroad, and their signatures attest the authenticity of documents issued by the Charter. They will have us and others who join us as their colleagues, taking part in any needed negotiations, shouldering particular risks and sharing every responsibility.

We believe that Charter 77 will help to enable all the citizens of Czechoslovakia to work and live as free human beings.

## Egyptians vote on Sadat plan to curb disorders

From Our Correspondent Cairo, Feb 10

Egyptians voted in a referendum today on a series of measures introduced by President Sadat to outlaw demonstrations, strikes and sit-ins.

The proposals provide for sentences of hard labour for life for rioting and subverting property. Tax evasion will also be an offence punishable by hard labour, but President Sadat's draft law exempts the poor and small farmers from all taxes.

The package is expected to be overwhelmingly endorsed by the people, despite appeals by the leftist Progressive Unionist Party to reject them.

The proposals stem from last month's disturbances over price increases for food and other commodities, in which about 80 people were killed and 800 injured.

President Sadat said the rioting was part of a communist plot to overthrow him.

Observers here see the referendum as a test of confidence in the Egyptian Government. Only a simple majority of the ballots cast by the 9,600,000 registered voters will be needed for the proposals to become law.

Cairo's newspapers, radio and television have urged voters to endorse Mr Sadat's measures. The results are expected to be announced tomorrow.

## Queen Alia is buried in grounds of her palace

Amman, Feb 10.—King Husain of Jordan stood grief-stricken at the graveside today as his 28-year-old wife, killed in a helicopter crash yesterday, was buried in the grounds of a palace he built for her only four months ago.

President Hafez al-Assad, of Syria, who was host to the King and Queen Alia in Damascus last Sunday, stood beside the monarch as the coffin was lowered into a hilltop grave.

Few other foreign leaders had time to reach Amman for the funeral. An exception was Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who cancelled an official two-day visit to Jordan, due to begin today, but flew from Damascus to represent his country at the funeral.

Empress Farah of Iran arrived at the Hashimiyyah Palace, 10 miles west of Amman, as a 21-gun salute signalled the lowering of the coffin.

Mr Muhammad al-Bashir, the Jordanian Health Minister, the pilot and a military doctor died with Queen Alia when the helicopter crashed in flames in a rainstorm 12 miles south of here.

On the way to the graveside, King Husain, wearing a dark civilian suit, was accompanied by President Assad in the first car to arrive at the funeral.

Herr Genscher travelled in the second car.—Reuter.

## UN concern over conditions in Israeli jails

From Our Correspondent Geneva, Feb 10

The United Nations Human Rights Commission decided today to send a telegram to the Israeli Government expressing concern at reports of "the death of Arab detainees in Israeli prisons, which are attributable to the conditions of their imprisonment".

There were 22 votes in favour. The United States, Canada and Costa Rica voted against and five countries abstained—Britain, Italy, Rwanda, Sweden and West Germany.

The telegram calls for observations on the Geneva conventions and an improvement in prison conditions.

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\*Motor Transport, March 14, 1975.



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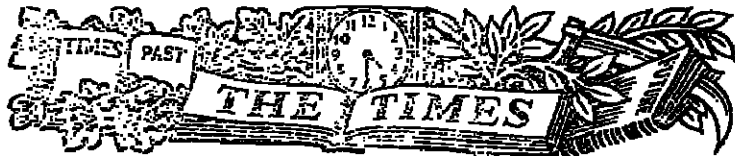












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## THE GREAT DILEMMA

It could hardly be a better time to publish a book about the dilemmas and snarls of policy. Whatever the balance of advantage and disadvantage of administrative processes of pay setting, collective bargaining, can be little doubt that the wages decline with time and disadvantages multiply a year or two of restraint.

Is it possible to have a policy of persevering with restraint? We are at such a point. The authors then come to the more formidable antagonist who argues: "You have admitted that a monetary slowdown results in a 'transitional' increase in unemployment... because people will continue for a while to base their pricing—and wage-fixing policies—on expectations created by previous inflationary experience."

Why not have temporary wage and price controls to cut short the learning process, so that pay and price decisions are adjusted downwards more quickly and fewer people are priced out of jobs?

They have too short a way with him, arguing that "the important part of changing expectations about wages and price behaviour is the credibility of the government's policy of slower monetary expansion" and that anyway "in practice governments do not use controls as a complement to monetary policy but as a substitute for it."

The history of the past eighteen months, despite Brittan and Lilley's assertions to the contrary (based on an uncharacteristic confusion of a tax reduction in the 1976 budget with monetary relaxation), argues against their thesis. If pay settlements, which had been running as high as 30 per cent in the summer of 1975, had not been abruptly restrained, then many more people would have priced themselves out of their jobs and the pressure to reflate (and to buttress the pound by import controls) would have been much stronger and we should not have had even the partially restrained monetary expansion that we have had.

It can still be argued against even a temporary incomes policy that what Brittan and Lilley call "the price paid to obtain union consent", added to the rigidities, anomalies and progressive frustration of normal adjustments in the labour market, exceed the benefits, although the magnitudes cannot be measured at all precisely. It is, however, certain that the benefits are immediate and progressive, while the costs are progressive and cumulative.

In present circumstances this probably argues for a return to free pay from next summer. There remain the important questions whether there is or ever was any real problem for incomes policies to solve. The general theme of the argument in the book is that the problem has been invented by evil or disturbed men.

Brittan and Lilley state categorically that "institutional factors (like trade union bargaining) ... cannot determine the average level of money wages". Elsewhere, they also profess themselves sceptical whether unions ever have, though in theory they think they could have, contributed to the rising trend in unemployment over the past ten years or more by their exercise of a monopoly bargaining power.

work?", an argument which according to the authors "has frequently been propounded by *The Times*".

*The Times* has used this kind of argument for a temporary incomes policy, but not for a permanent incomes policy, since *The Times* has long regarded a permanent incomes policy as involving economic and political costs out of all proportion to any possible benefits. *The Times* has also discussed whether and what permanent institutional changes, but not pay controls, might tend to reduce the sustainable level of unemployment consistent with stable prices and a free society.

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constitution we have is "flexible", and "flexible" by general belief is "strong". Flexible can bend but cannot be changed without being taken to pieces. The present devolution proposals are in fact taking the constitution to pieces without the proper tools.

Constitutions are changed by conventions of all parties and of those who will have to make it work. Even in the comparatively "simple" conditions in Nigeria, proposals for changes went down to district level in the form of questions, and helpful answers resulted.

Changes in constitutions surely must be based on general agreement reached before the drafting of Bills comes on. Royal Commissions are excellent and effective for their own purposes, but the changing of a constitution is a matter which in the end affects every soul living in the land, and all those souls waiting in the wings of the future, and consideration should surely be as widely based as possible.

The present Bill, to the outlooker, is crammed with inconsistencies and weaknesses and cannot possibly work in practice. It does not seem to me to be possible, as it is, to amend it to make it into a real working human instrument. If by any fortunate chance the Bill were to fail I hope most sincerely that reconsideration will be on a grander and more inspired scale. It is important and inspiring, now so lacking, is required. I feel that Mr Steel is near the truth in some of his article today (February 7).

Yours sincerely,  
REX NIVEN,  
Rope Road,  
Deal,  
Kent.  
February 7.

There is a deep ambivalence here, which a close reader will find running right through the book. If trade unions cannot determine the average level of money wages, then they certainly cannot—even in theory—price their members generally out of jobs or contribute to a higher than necessary level of unemployment.

Yet the authors also say that "no one really knows just how important union monopoly is among the reasons for high unemployment in the United Kingdom". And repeatedly throughout the book it is stated and taken for granted that trade union bargaining can, does, has or might: "resist the rise in import prices and the resulting pressure on real incomes by claiming higher wages"; "feel cheated (by bad official forecasts) and so spark off the very wage explosion that is feared"; turn a £6 a week maximum into a £6 a week minimum; be one of the "social forces which are too powerful to outlaw"; and benefit from "some sort of early warning system to communicate to union leaders the wage implications of a given monetary policy". This does not sound like impotence.

It is a pity that this blurred, if not blind, spot in Brittan and Lilley's generally acute vision has prevented them from confronting the next real question for serious thinkers about incomes policy. If, as the last twenty years suggest, collective bargaining does raise the sustainable level of unemployment seriously above levels which are consistent with political stability and if incomes policies, temporary breathing spaces apart, cannot permanently modify that effect, what then?

The authors refer briefly and slightly to some institutional changes (such as "various types of workers' cooperatives, schemes of industrial democracy and profit-sharing, or methods of job enrichment to replace the assembly line") which have been proposed in this context. They conclude triumphantly that "none of these treatises concepts have spread like wildfire through industry". But it is in the nature of change designed to improve the functioning of a defective system that they are not self-promoting.

## Incomes policies not the answer

The rule of law did not spread like wildfire through the jungle. Nor did traffic lights spread like wildfire through the private initiative of individual motorists. The limited liability company had to be legislated for; and in the days of real laissez-faire monopoly, cartels and trusts showed much more inclination to spread like wildfire than the institutions of a competitive market economy, which Brittan and Lilley rightly approve.

What is now needed is a careful attempt to measure how far, given a non-inflationary monetary policy, the monopolistic supply of labour affects unemployment and, if the quantum is large enough to cause concern, of the means by which collective bargaining can be modified. It is at least quite clear—and this book helps to make it so—that incomes policies cannot provide any kind of workable permanent solution to this problem except under totalitarian conditions.

*The Delusions of Incomes Policy*, by Samuel Brittan and Peter Lilley, Maurice Temple Smith Ltd, Hardback £6.50; Paperback £3.0.

## Privacy and the media

From Mr Paul Sieghart  
Sir, The Managing Director of Capital Radio (January 28) is right to worry about any law which might turn out to fetter the freedom of expression, whether in the press, on the air or elsewhere. Yet neither he nor any responsible journalist would claim an unfettered right to infringe the privacy of any citizen unless it is for the public benefit, and I am sure he objects as strongly as anyone when that does happen.

He cites section 4(2) of the Independent Broadcasting Act as a bad law. That is a good argument against bad laws, but it is not an argument for having no law at all. We are bound by our international obligations to have laws to protect our citizens' right of privacy (as well as their right of free expression); but our privacy laws are still defective, as the Younger Committee found more than four years ago. Very little has been done since, largely (one suspects) because politicians of all colours do not like to tangle with the press. Yet the few infringements of privacy by the press are a minuscule fraction of the total—compared, say with the army of official snoops of whose annual increase the press frequently, and rightly, complains.

If the media are truly concerned about the whole field of privacy, and not merely that small part which affects them directly, they should combine now to devise an acceptable formula for their own regulation. Once that stumbling block is removed, our politicians would be able to tackle the rest, knowing that the media will support

## Punishing young offenders

From the Secretary of The Magistrates' Association  
Sir, In February 4 you reported parliamentary exchanges under the heading "Magistrates not using all their powers to deal with vandals". It is not adequately realized that in imposing a fine, magistrates are required by statute to have regard to the means of the defendant. If a young man has smashed up property and then proves to be out of work, or without means, what is the court to do? The maximum penalty for wilfully damaging property is a fine up to £400 and/or six months imprisonment and the offender can be ordered to pay compensation. But if he is unemployed, this is often academic for a really heavy fine would be both unjust and unenforceable.

Since there are few cases in which reports show that the hope of alternative of community service would be appropriate, the other possibility is detention centre or imprisonment. Here Parliament has rightly imposed restrictions to ensure that no one is imprisoned lightly. The offender must have the chance to legal representation, the court must have a social enquiry report about him or her, and if the offender is under 21, or over 21 and has not been in prison before, then the court must state its reasons for concluding that no other penalty would be appropriate. Everyone agrees that custody should be the last resort.

Much violence and vandalism comes from juveniles under 17 where the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 has deprived the courts of adequate power to deal effectively even with repeated offences. Eighteen months ago the all-party House of Commons Expenditure Committee unanimously recommended that, the second time round, juvenile courts should have power to make a secure care order for the Government White Paper of May 1976 conceded only that the courts should have power to make a recommendation (and that behind the scenes and not in open court) to the local authority social services.

In recent discussions involving this Association and the local authority Association, the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Home Secretary seemed unable to go any further. Until juvenile courts have adequate powers restored they are not to be blamed for their inability to stem rising juvenile delinquency.

Yours faithfully,  
A. J. BRAYSHAW, Secretary,  
The Magistrates' Association,  
28 Fitz Square, W1.  
February 9.

## Sir Harold's honours

From Professor Bernard Crick  
Sir, Mr S. C. Leslie (February 9) says *propos* Mr Haines' entry into authorship. It seems obvious that the system can survive only if Civil Service conventions about the confidentiality of internal proceedings are respected. ... How absurd! Of course it can, has and will. Why must people use such pseudo-scientific jargon about rigour, objectivity, or impartiality, when they mean to say is that they think something is morally wrong—which is surely bad enough?

Even so, I disagree. I would offer a contrary aphorism that a system is only worthy of full respect when its decisions are open to inspection, or if that is not always possible, if we would not feel disrespect for what we would see if they were. I cannot quite agree, either, with David Bell (February 9) that it is all a fuss about nothing. Think rather of the alleged words of Mr Jay Gould, the American financier: "The British Government should make a generous payment to the Banabans."

Yours sincerely,  
BERNARD CRICK,  
The Political Quarterly,  
Birkbeck College,  
Gresse Street, W1,  
February 9.

From Mr Owen Greenwood  
Sir, It is all very well for retired civil servants to write with lofty disdain of "some imported Fleet Street lion with a long tongue and a disposition to govern."

It matters nothing that the emergence of the truth reflects no credit upon this or that individual. The facts are as they are, and people who wish to contest facts—whether by falsehood, or promise of some favour, or even by "public statements of guidance"—must not be surprised if the lid blows off with a bang.

Yours faithfully,  
O. GREENWOOD,  
12 Elm Grove Road,  
Ealing, W5,  
February 9.

## Teaching Community law

From Professor J. D. B. Mitchell  
Sir, There are occasions when the Scottish universities lead the way. It is perhaps reasonable to comment on Mr Berline's balanced article on Community law (*The Times*, February 2) that it has been taught at the honours level in this university since 1965. The significance of that law, whether the United Kingdom was in or out, was pressed as a minuscule fraction of the total—compared, say with the army of official snoops of whose annual increase the press frequently, and rightly, complains.

If the media are truly concerned about the whole field of privacy, and not merely that small part which affects them directly, they should combine now to devise an acceptable formula for their own regulation. Once that stumbling block is removed, our politicians would be able to tackle the rest, knowing that the media will support

## The motivation of management

From Lord PLOWDEN  
Sir, The report on "Motivation of Management" published earlier this week by Opinion Research Centre (*The Times*, February 8), has aroused widespread interest and comment.

It is the subject of the greatest national concern. It would be most regrettable if the debate deteriorated into a destructive and divisive "them and us" argument. So if I may, I would like to direct attention to what I believe is the heart of the matter.

The important thing for this country, which should take precedence over everything else, is the creation of more wealth. We ought not to be quarrelling about the correct division of the existing cake but how to increase the size of that cake and keep on increasing it. This transcends political argument. It is so important to the Labour Party for its plans to improve social benefits, to trade union leaders who wish to increase the take home pay and the security of their members, as it is to every other sector. More wealth benefits everybody.

It is industry and commerce which create this wealth. We all have a vital stake in the success of industry in competing with Germany, Japan, the United States and others.

Nobody should try to put management and the shop floor at each other's throats. Both are on the same side. Both are vital and both are complementary. If we are to succeed in creating the extra wealth, from which new jobs, welfare, education, defence and, not least, national self confidence all flow,

which unanimously agreed that any changes in the law to encourage worker participation in management should be subsidiary to the reforms in industrial relations legislation that they recommended. The majority of that commission did not recommend the appointment of "worker directors" and the minority that favoured it, and the TUC, believed that it should be on a voluntary basis only. Bullock dismisses this by saying, in effect, that "the TUC has changed its mind". It is clear that others have not done so and the debate on Bullock should be extended to cover those other reforms which Donovan said must first be effected.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM BOARDMAN,  
The Manor House,  
Welford,  
Northampton.

From Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal  
Sir, David Barnett has performed a useful service in pointing out, in any way, means by "industrial democracy" (article in *Business News*, February 2).

It is the priorities of his first two paragraphs which worry me. Surely the paramount need is to seek "an increase in industrial efficiency". The resulting benefits to everybody will surely bring favourable conditions for the desirable objective of giving "workers in industry some control over decisions that vitally affect their working lives".

His other pleas for a flexible approach would be even more telling if only he would recognize that "workers" include many who are not members of unions.

Yours, &c.  
STRATHCONA,  
House of Lords.

The British, Australian and New Zealand Governments retain 21 million dollars in the reserves of the British Phosphate Commissioners. In 1975 the Governments were prepared to use some of this money to settle the litigation. It still offers an honourable way out.

The 21 million dollars should be paid to the Banabans at once without strings as some reparation for past wrongs.

Any prevarication by the British Government will not be acceptable to public or parliamentary opinion. It will compel the Banabans to turn to the Court of Appeal as the only hope of improving on the British Government that their duties are enforceable in the courts. Such a judgment would come as no surprise. The only issue now is whether the Banabans will be compelled to ask the Court of Appeal to seek legal grounds on which unenforced moral obligations of HMG might be legally enforceable, or whether the Government, who have indicated from the beginning that they intend to discharge those obligations, will make a sufficiently generous ex gratia settlement. In so doing they would spare the Banabans further worry and expense, and themselves the odium of appearing to act in a mean and defensive way.

We have the honour, Sir, to be your obedient servants.  
JEREMY THORPE,  
EMLYN HOOPER,  
House of Commons.

## South African visit

From the General Secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers  
Sir, You report (February 4) the South African Embassy's pained reaction to my refusal to take part in a fully paid for package tour of their country.

My reasons were simple. I would have been as likely to see the worst sort of impression on this officially sponsored jolly as I would see in the Civil Service. For example, in the USSR or in pre-war terms, Hitler's concentration camps.

One does not need to be up to one's neck in a midden to smell the stench.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM JACKSON,  
General Secretary,  
Union of Post Office Workers,  
UPW House,  
Crescent Lane,  
Clapham, SW4.

## Career preferences

From Mr Robert M. Worcester  
Sir, In today's *Times* (February 9), an article reporting on our survey of final-year male undergraduates' attitudes towards careers gives a

## Church remarriage after divorce

From the Bishop of Sheffield and others  
Sir, Next week the General Synod of the Church of England is likely to give provisional approval to a new Marriage Service. This service, like the other "Series III" services, is in modern English, and will be available as an alternative to the service in the Book of Common Prayer. Preliminary debates have shown a healthy awareness that this service is not an academic exercise but a service to be used by people—and people who in many cases have little contact with the Church.

But there is one group of people which has not been considered in the Church of England's efforts to ignore whenever she can. We refer here to those whose first marriage has been dissolved, and who wish to re-marry in church. For them the Marriage Service is generally available. The law of the land gives a clergyman the right to marry them, and many clergy wish to avail themselves of this right, but in the last hundred years the pressures exerted by those who believe such services to be wrong have led to such a hardening of official attitudes that few clergy feel able or feel it right to do so.

Three years ago a survey of the dioceses showed that a clear majority of bishops, clergy and laity were deeply dissatisfied with the present position. But after an extremely unsatisfactory debate in the Synod no decision was taken except that there should be yet another working party on the whole theology of marriage.

We welcome liturgical revision, but we believe that a change in the attitude of the Church of England to the re-marriage of divorced persons is pastorally of far greater importance than the revision of the marriage service.

Yours faithfully,  
GORDON SHEPHERD,  
TREVYN SOUTHWARD,  
WELLS-PESTELL,  
FRANCIS A. PIACHAUD,  
Prebendary of St Paul's and  
Vicar of Christ Church, Chelsea,  
EDWARD CARPENTER,  
Dean of Westminster,  
A. C. ADCOCK,  
Vicar of Yarnston, Oxford,  
The Deanery,  
Westminster Abbey, SW1,  
February 9.

## Canterbury and Rome

From the Rev Laurence Bright, OP  
Sir, Mrs Husain's letter of today (February 8) demonstrates rather starkly the gap between the theologians expressed in the joint statement on authority and those held by what she herself calls "an ordinary Catholic". There is no reason to fault such a statement on the ground that she was in fact taught to "believe in the Petrine texts and other dogmas which stem from them". When she was being taught these things it was generally held dangerous to burden the simple faithful with anything so Protestant-sounding as belief in Jesus, or with criteria for judging the relative importance of parts of scripture or church pronouncements in their historical development.

Things are better now. At least a minority of religious education teachers have found a more modern approach, helped by excellent catechetical centres in some dioceses, and by various publications that reflect the totally new approach discovered by the Second Vatican Council. But there is one point in looking for ecumenical agreement between churches (rather than between their accredited experts) until a new generation, more aware of the complexity of truth, has replaced those led into error by the rigidity of their preachers' views.

Ecumenical cooperation must surely continue. But it should work its effects through simple practical measures such as the abolition of sectarian schools rather than by union agreed without the involvement of ordinary church members.

Yours faithfully,  
LAURENCE BRIGHT,  
52 Lewin Road, SW16,  
February 8.

## Temple Bar

From Mr Zelide Cowan  
Sir, With reference to the interesting article on Temple Bar by Richard Sachs (February 7) I would like to unshroud some of the mystery which apparently attaches to some of the statues on the arch. At least two of the original sculptures for Temple Bar were the works of John Bushnell, an eccentric man of some reputation who had sculpted for many years in Venice. Rupert Gannin in his Dictionary of British Sculptors 1660-1951, says "Bushnell's first public works in England were the statues of the King and Queen which he made for Temple Bar in 1670, and for which he received £440." (City Corporation MSS, Temple Bar 135.27.) The Queen in the niche is presumably Catherine of Braganza.

Yours faithfully,  
ZELIDE COWAN,  
38 Cayton Road, NW3.

## The Jubilee Hymn

From Colonel Alan H. Maude  
Sir, The poet Laureate and the Master of the Queen's Music seem to have been less successful in their thankless task than were the writer (Was it Bishop Boyd-Carpenter of Ripon?) and the composer of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Hymn. I have searched in vain among my Victorian souvenirs for a copy of it. Of the words, I can recall only the first two and the last two lines: O King of Kings whose reign of old Hath been from everlasting ... And make the world a better world For man's brief earthly dwelling. But the whole rousing tune still rings in the brain of at least one boy who sang it in a school Chapel 80 years ago.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN H. MAUDE,  
Stone House,  
Perworth,  
West Sussex.

## ing on Rockall

From Terence Prittie  
Sir, A Tipperary man may I say "viciously" disturbed I was by report of February 4 on the invasion, in 1955, of the of Rockall? As your article subject pointed out, Rockall is nearer to the coast of the Republic than to that of Great Britain (the nearest British territory of course, is County London, and not any part of Scotland).

I am sure that your readers will find that landing a party of men on an uninhabited island is no enforcement of a territorial claim. For, whatever the British claim of 1955, believed, it is now committed—under Nations Resolution 242 of to the doctrine of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by military force.

It would seem that a grievous wrong was perpetrated in 1955. I should have landed, not men, but a party of White-vested servants, armed with nothing lethal than bowler hats and Odd-job sort and brooms. It, anyway, remains unimpaired. It is impossible to hold a drum there.

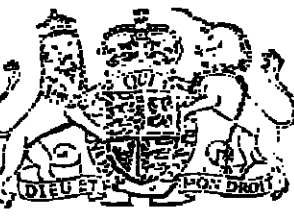
Days of submarine diplomacy later, and Rockall was not discovered by a British, but by Irish Sir. He was rather short of and he called it the Island Blest.

Yours faithfully,  
NCE C. F. PRITTIE,  
Hlers Club,  
Iall, SW1.

## aging the constitution

From Sir Rex Niven  
We pride ourselves on having written constitution and what





# COURT CIRCULAR

## BUCKINGHAM PALACE

February 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, on behalf of the Queen, held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning. The Prince of Wales was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Haller at the funeral service for Mr A. A. Evans (late of the Welsh Guards) which was held at Chesham House, London.

## CLARENCE HOUSE

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## KENSINGTON PALACE

February 10: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Sandwich, this afternoon visited the Headquarters of the British Red Cross Society at Kensington Palace, London.

## Marriages

Mr A. N. J. Hay and Miss V. J. Coats. The marriage took place at St James's Palace, London.

## Birthdays today

Sir John Arthur, 65; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barrington, 71; Sir John Munn, 65; Sir Alexander Cairncross, 65; Sir Richard Dames, 63; Air Commodore Sir James East, 63; Sir John Munn, 65; Sir Alexander Cairncross, 65; Sir Richard Dames, 63; Air Commodore Sir James East, 63.

## Today's engagements

Exhibition, Pompidou, 10-5. Illustrating life of a city destroyed by Vesuvius, Royal Academy, 10-8.

## Memorial service

A memorial service for Marshal of the RAF Viscount Trenchard, founder of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, will be held in Westminster Abbey yesterday.

## Museum library closure

The Caird Library, together with the reference section and allied research facilities, at the National Maritime Museum, will be closed to the public, readers and researchers for annual stock-taking from next Monday to Saturday inclusive.

## 25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Feb 11, 1952

## Pleven plan in trouble

The Pleven plan for a European army with all that it means for the future of Europe and European cooperation is in serious trouble. Dr Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, whose own faith in the plan has never been questioned last week got the consent of the Bundestag to persevere in the negotiations by the small majority of 48 votes.

## Church news

Appointments. The Rev D. Hughes, Rector of St. James's, Exeter, on April 30.

## Books in large print

Shown left is the difference between the size of type in the original and the larger print in specially prepared books now available for partially sighted readers.

## NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. Chairman: The Marquis of Norham, M.P.

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## Forthcoming marriages

Dr A. R. Atkinson and Miss S. M. Murdoch. The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. Atkinson, of Southport, Lancashire, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Murdoch, of Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada.

## Mr L. Durrant and Mrs D. A. Bliss

The engagement is announced between Louis (Tim) Durrant, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond, and Rosemary, widow of John Hollingworth, of Redlands Farm, West Wittering.

## Mr J. S. Gummer and Miss P. J. Gardner

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. Gummer, of Merton, Surrey, and Pamela, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Gardner, of Ealing.

## Mr C. M. Hamer and Miss M. Pol-Roger

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Colonel and Mrs Peter Hamer, of Oare Cottage, Hemel Hempstead, and Marie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Guy Pol-Roger, of Epemay, France.

## Mr P. A. van Wyngaarden and Miss D. V. Hargreaves

The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. van Wyngaarden, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Hargreaves, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond.

## Mr R. C. E. Walker and Miss S. M. MacRobert

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## Mr K. J. N. Neek and Miss C. R. Mitchell

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, younger son of Mr and Mrs K. J. Neek, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. R. Mitchell, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond.

## Mr R. P. J. M. Southwell and Miss A. M. Patterson

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Group Captain and Mrs R. P. J. M. Southwell, of Oxford, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. M. Patterson, of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

## Mr C. D. M. Steves and Miss P. W. Beak

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs C. D. M. Steves, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond, and Pamela, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. W. Beak, of 10 Marlborough Court, Richmond.

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## Luncheon

Sir Frederick Warner. Chairman of the Process Plant Workers Party of NED, was the principal guest at the luncheon given by the British Industrial Association of Control Apparatus Manufacturers' Association.

## Dinners

Cineque Ports. The Deputy Constable of Dover Castle, Colonel A. A. Altherton, and Mrs Altherton entertained the Bayards of the Cineque Ports and their ladies at dinner in Dover Castle last night.

## Comings Club

The Comings Club entertained Sir Keith Joseph, MP, at dinner at the Carlton Club last night. Mr Roger Evans was in the chair.

## Hunteria Society

The annual dinner of the Hunteria Society took place at the Savoy Hotel yesterday evening. Mr Henry Thompson, president, was in the chair, and the principal guests included Lord Todd and Mr Justice Evesleigh.

## Royal Aeronautical Society

The Sir Sydney Camm memorial dinner of the Royal Aeronautical Society was held at the Royal Aeronautical Society yesterday afternoon. The lecture was given by Sir Sydney Camm.

## Tallow Chandlers Company

The Tallow Chandlers Company held their annual dinner at the Grosvenor Hotel last night. Mr Walter R. Stevens, president, was in the chair, and the principal guests included Lord Todd and Mr Justice Evesleigh.

## Museum staff disbanded to reduce costs

By Kenneth Gosling. Arts Reporter. The department of regional services, which included the Museum of London, is to be disbanded, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education, announced yesterday in a written answer to Mr George Strauss, Labour MP for Lambeth, Vauxhall.

## Ball

League of Friends of the Italian Hospital. The League of Friends of the Italian Hospital held their annual dinner and dance, in aid of the Italian Hospital, Queen Square, at Grosvenor House, yesterday evening.

## Latest appointments

Surgeon Rear-Admiral J. S. P. Rawlin was appointed Director of the Royal Naval School of Maritime Studies, in the acting rank of surgeon vice-admiral, from March 30, in succession to Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watson.

## Queen's walk on Jubilee Day

The Queen is to walk through the streets of London on St. Paul's Cathedral to Guildhall on Jubilee Day, June 7, the City Corporation announced yesterday.

## Science report

Medicine: Cancer in industry. A preliminary examination of deaths from leukaemia-type conditions among workers at the nuclear reprocessing plant at Windscale, Cumbria, between 1950 and 1974, shows that "cannot be considered abnormal".

## University news

Oxford. Professor N. H. March, BSc, PhD (London), professor of theoretical solid state physics, Imperial College, London, has been elected to the Croucher Professorship of Theoretical Chemistry.

## Church news

Appointments. The Rev D. Hughes, Rector of St. James's, Exeter, on April 30.

## Books in large print

Shown left is the difference between the size of type in the original and the larger print in specially prepared books now available for partially sighted readers.

## NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. Chairman: The Marquis of Norham, M.P.



# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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### S government task force ges full competition r world shipping groups

It concludes: "Conference power is not effectively constrained by market forces or by regulation as Congress hoped. Indeed, the evidence shows that current regulation may well have promoted, rather than hindered, cartelization of the industry."

Sweeping changes in United States maritime law are urged. A fully competitive environment, the report says, could produce a more efficient industry that could offer lower rates.

It maintains that there is no validity to the argument made by the shipping conferences that a competitive system would produce ruinous competition and monopoly power for a few strong companies.

A competitive system will produce a more balanced overall situation with supply and demand being much closer together than is possible under the conference system, the report continues.

"The present system of regulation has been shown to encourage wasteful service competition and to discourage cost reduction, thereby substantially raising the cost of shipping services."

American shipping experts believe that the Department of Justice is aiming to show that wide abuse of conference regulations has taken place and that this possible result of the grand jury investigation, taken together with the report, will prompt the administration to make a radical review of maritime legislation and smash the conference system.

It would appear that the British Government fully supports the inquiry and the report has been dispatched to the American officials. Mr. Gerry Lachin, the shipping policy of the British Department of Trade, said the report has been a special task force. Mr. Donald Flexner, the anti-trust division's industries section, J. Rose, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Anti-trust Affairs. Both men are actively involved in the grand jury investigation.

### Beer: Minister orders price inquiry

Beer prices are being referred to the Price Commission. Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday in a written Commons reply that because of the "high level of public concern" he was asking the Commission to examine "the prices and margins in the manufacture and distribution of beer in the United Kingdom of beer sold by retail for consumption on licensed premises" in order to establish the facts.

What really annoyed brewers was that by questioning their prices and profits, Mr. Hattersley would be jeopardizing plans designed to cooperate with the Government's job creation strategy. The Government acknowledges this has to be based on profitability.

Mr. Peter Balfour, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle, which is expected to announce plans soon for a new brewery in south Tyneside, said last night that if as a result of the Commission's report there were to be restrictions on profits or prices which reduced his company's cash flow, it "would have to reconsider its investment programme."

Mr. Derrick Holden-Brown, vice-chairman of Allied Breweries, which last month announced a £164m investment programme, said that "pending the outcome of the inquiry" the group had no intention of reviewing its plans. The reference would create a period of uncertainty for the industry, he added.

The Brewers' Society said Mr. Hattersley's reference to the Commission was a "needless, time-wasting exercise" which would call into question the whole of the Government's "so-called industrial strategy". All brewers were convinced that the Commission's report would vindicate them.

It added that the industry's pre-tax profits were below the levels of five years ago, and that after inflation has been taken into account the return on capital was less than the average for British industry as a whole. Last year, the society said, brewers' profit margins were the lowest for five years.

The industry was seeking to invest an average of £300m a year in each of the next three years, the society added.

Brewers were thoroughly tired of being subject to official inquiries, it said. In the past decade the Prices and Incomes Board, the Monopolies Commission, the Excess Profits Committee and the Blennerhassett committee had all examined various aspects of the industry. At present the Price Commission was investigating prices of soft drink "mixers" sold in pubs.

Mr. Hattersley has asked the Commission to report by July 31 the date on which the legislation under which the Commission is constituted expires.

He also expected to make other references to the Commission during the next couple of weeks for examination during the same period, one of which will concern paint prices.

### Ombudsman gives 'fit and proper' verdict

The 120-man team at the Department of Trade's insurance division has a delicate task administering the widening powers of supervision provided for under the Insurance Companies Acts. It has to protect the public from the unscrupulous, while at the same time observing the rights of individuals. The problem of reconciling these two aspects of its powers are recognized in the Parliamentary Commissioner's annual report for 1976.

Sir Idwal Pugh, the Ombudsman, carried out three investigations of complaints about the exercise of the DoT's powers under the insurance companies legislation last year. In two cases, that of Nation Life Insurance and of a small mutual insurance association, Sir Idwal concluded the Department had acted properly.

The DoT is, however, criticized for its "unsatisfactory" handling of the third case, that of Castle Life Assurance, Castle, incorporated in 1971 and authorized to trade as a life office in September 1973, became the first company ordered to stop taking new business under sections of the Insurance Companies Acts restricting groups whose controller had caused a "fit and proper" person.

Castle's architect, an actuary and for long a respected figure in the insurance industry, complained that the Department's action in declaring him to be "not a fit and proper person" was "unjustified and excessive". Although Sir Idwal rejects further complaints that a Department official showed personal prejudice against the actuary, and that the DoT's deliberation in declaring him to be "not a fit and proper person" was "unjustified and excessive", he does criticize certain aspects of the DoT's treatment of the affair.

The Commissioner recognized that the case has already been reviewed. But he feels that "the reconsideration issue was not satisfactory. Not only was the same advice which I have criticized... given by the same officials... but it was accompanied by subjective judgments backed by no convincing evidence."

Accordingly, Sir Idwal has called for a further full ministerial review of the case.

Control of Castle, renamed Igal in December 1974, has since passed to Mr. Joseph Kaplan who, in taking his fight against a DoT order that he is not a "fit and proper person" to the European Commission of Human Rights this March, Mr. Kaplan, who has described the DoT's behaviour in his case as a "vendetta", has focused criticism on the Department's powers, criticism echoed by Sir Keith Joseph who has said that "where such arbitrary power is given there is a special need to use it in a totally defensible way."

In his report Sir Idwal quotes the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Trade in 1973 saying "I hope I have shown that applications are never treated lightly or capriciously, but rather with the seriousness which is appropriate."

A measure of this seriousness is shown by the fact that the DoT, which received 1,700 applications for authorization last year, has referred less than 100 cases to the Ombudsman since 1967. In this group 52 applicants were eventually accepted; 26 withdrew; 12 were refused authorization and in only nine cases covering just six companies was authorization revoked.

John Brennan

### Land stewards plan mass pay nonstration for Varley visit

Mr. Webb, at Leyland's Long plan to make visit by Mr. Varley, the Secretary of State for Industry, for a mass demonstration in support of a return to collective bargaining. The phase two pay policy July 1, management was last night that with 100 employees on the demonstration could be held. It has improved shop stewards the need their members under id have preferred the to make their views the form of a petition rley. However the shop are clearly determined now publicity for the they are mounting to n leaders during the negotiations with the ent. K Jones, of the trans-rk and Mr. Hugh of the engineering, are accompanying Mr.



Mr. Varley: Hot reception promised for him.

### Engineering union leaders resigned to year without national pay deal

Northern Industrial Union leaders representing 2,500,000 engineering appear to be resigned to that for the third using they are unlikely able to negotiate a agreement on pay and is. July, the Confederation building and Engineering us would expect to get from its annual con-early in the summer ew pay and conditions e submitted to the ring. Employers' on behalf of its 19 ent unions. However, while the social has been in operation, alable pay rises have ken up in company and gaining and this has

### Whisky: Japan hints at retaliation to curbs

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, Feb 10

Britain may be asked to restrict its exports of Scotch whisky to Japan, its second largest market, in the face of the growing number of curbs against Japanese business activities in Europe, the Japanese government hinted today.

The warnings delivered only five days after Europe imposed a 20 per cent anti-dumping charge on Japanese bearings, gave official credence to reports that Japan's powerful Domestic Association of Distillers is using the EEC-Japan trade confrontation as an argument to wage a "war" against Scotch imports.

European diplomats who are attempting to persuade Japan to take drastic steps to redress its lopsided trade balance described the threat as a "bolt out of the blue".

Scotch whisky is one of Europe's new strictures against Japanese car sales in Britain, Mr. Hirotsugu Dan, director general of the Customs and Tariff Bureau of the Japanese Finance Ministry, pointed out that the volume of imported bottled Scotch increased seven-fold between 1971 and 1975.

Setting out his views in a column, "My advice to our friends in the EEC" in the *Morgenblatt* Daily News this morning, Mr. Dan went on to declare:

"Bottled Scotch whisky now accounts for 8 per cent of the whisky market in Japan. Since Japan has been asked by Britain voluntarily to curb car exports to the United Kingdom for retaliatory action for the 9 per cent of new registrations in Britain it may be time that Japan asked Britain to hold down its Scotch exports."

A West European diplomat said: "The domestic distillers make these noises every year but I never thought that a government official would back these views up as an apparent threat at this delicate stage."

In recent weeks the Japan Foreign Liquor Distillers Association has attacked EEC demands for a reduction in duties on imported whisky as a means of redressing the imbalances in trade.

Local distillers claim that

### Mergers in power sector opposed

By R. W. Shakespeare

Engineering union leaders have told the Government that they firmly resist any mergers or take overs in the power engineering sector. Mr. merger proposals reported to be in the pipeline went ahead, "sanctions" would be imposed by the workers concerned.

The hard line resistance to a probable reorganization of the power sector, which would involve four large companies—GEC and C. A. Parsons in the turbine generating field, and Clarke Chapman and Babcock and Wilcox in the boiler-making and pipe-making sectors—has already been spelled out to Mr. Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, by senior officials of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Yesterday at its meeting in York, the confederation's national executive unanimously endorsed the stand.

Confederation representatives will now seek urgent meetings with senior management officials of the four companies to make the unions' views known.

After yesterday's meeting Mr. Len Edmondson, president of the confederation, member unions of which represent 34,000 workers in the four companies, said: "Our past experience of mergers has been that they inevitably lead to large-scale cutbacks."

"These industries are located in high unemployment areas and we are determined to resist anything that will cause more jobs to be lost. There is little doubt that sanctions will be imposed if any mergers or takeovers are proposed."

Some reports have suggested that merger plans under discussion would create a new power engineering organization through the union of GEC with Parsons and Clark Chapman with Babcock, with the National Enterprise Board having some involvement in each. Such a move, it has been estimated, might result in 25 per cent redundancy.

### Safety net withheld if reserves top \$6,750m

By David Blake

Britain will be able to draw on the "safety net" arranged to deal with the sterling balances only if its reserves are less than \$6,750m, Mr. Healey stated yesterday.

Giving details of the Basle scheme which came into action last Tuesday, the Chancellor said in a written parliamentary reply that the United Kingdom would be able to draw on the \$3,800m fund set up by central bank governors whenever the level of official holdings of sterling balances fell below £2,165m which was the figure at which they stood on December 3, 1976.

But the limit on the level of reserves which emerged during the governors' meeting on Monday, would almost certainly mean that the United Kingdom would not be able to draw on the facility at present. At the end of January the reserves stood at \$7,195m.

The terms of the Basle agreement do, however, provide for Britain to make borrowings even when its reserves are above the \$6,750m in certain circumstances, notably when the reserve level has been boosted by public sector foreign currency borrowing.

The limit is more of a protection for the countries which have put up the money to help Britain than a real threat to the workability of the "safety net" scheme if it were tested.

Any rundown of sterling balances would almost certainly result in Basle's reserves being lowered to level which allow a drawing from the fund. The agreement also specifies that after the first year of the scheme, only 75 per cent of the rundown in sterling balances can be met by drawings from the "safety net" fund. The right to make a drawing can be rolled over from one month to another.

Drawings will be made in United States dollars, will bear interest at market-related rates, and will be made public as the time of monthly reserve figures. Any sales of foreign currency bonds will be deducted from the £2,165m figure in deciding whether Britain can draw on the fund. So the actual trigger point is likely to be somewhat lower than the figure of £2,165m.

Details of these bonds will be announced later; but it now seems likely that they will be issued at a fixed rate of interest rather than a variable one, as some people had expected.

### Colgate to buy Terry's All Gold

By Our Financial Staff

Trust Houses Forte plans to sell its chocolate manufacturing business, Joseph Terry & Sons, to the American Colgate Palmolive group for about £17.5m in cash.

Based at York, Terry, whose leading brand is All Gold, was acquired by Forte in 1963, and is still the only manufacturing company within the THF group.

Last year, against a poor trading background for chocolate makers because of the hot weather, Terry earned profits of £2m, on sales of £22m.

For Colgate Palmolive, which is described as "one of the world's leading producers and distributors of products intended for personal care, laundry and cleaning, sports and leisure activities and health care", this appears to be the first venture into confectionery manufacturing. It says it will maintain Terry as a self-contained unit.

The importance of this deal for THF has to be seen in the context of its agreement to buy the substantial J. Lyons hotel interests for £27.5m on deferred payment terms, details of which are expected to be disclosed next week.

Clearly, THF's decision to part with Terry is bound up with its need to fund the Lyons hotel purchase scheme.

### Mr Carter adds weight to trade expansion demand

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Carter Administration yesterday called for closer collaboration between industrial countries and coupled it with criticism of the unwillingness of Germany and Japan to reflate their economies.

In one of the first statements spelling out the Administration's attitude to international economic problems, the United States Information Service released yesterday an article attributed to an "Administration official" which is believed to be the top level thinking in Washington about the whole range of these problems.

In it, the Administration claims that the United States is doing its part to bring the world out of recession by its acceptance of the \$6,000m (£3,410m) current account deficit and a willingness to go on accepting a deficit for some time.

"But Germany and Japan—the other two economically strong nations—appear to be less prepared to accept a current account deficit, as a contribution to economic recovery worldwide."

That criticism, coupled with a warning that not everyone can have export led growth measures the extent to which the United States has now swung towards the camp of those countries who want to see greater expansion in the year ahead and who will press for it at the forthcoming world economic summit.

The Administration also calls for faster progress in the present round of world trade talks in Geneva, which have stalled in the past two years. It says that the United States and Europe could be more flexible on the agricultural problem which has so far held up progress.

### Selby contract

The National Coal Board has awarded a contract for the sinking of the first pair of shafts in the Selby coalfield development to the Selby Colliery Mining, part of the Thelagar Hesse group. No figure has been disclosed.

### on members at bank onalization

Stephen Thomas Staff

Members of a big white union yesterday firmly rejected the proposals of the Party's national executive nationalizing insurance. They issued a statement that a state takeover increase the country's problems.

The decision came at a one-day conference in the City of finance industry of the Association of Technical and Financial Staffs (ASTMS), despite by leaders of the union by a decision until the inquiry into the City has ended.

National Union of Bankers also opposes the move, although it is not a nationalization in itself.

Executive yesterday asked for a conference to welcome the Bullock report on directors and urge action. But it calls for means with employees on the lines of Bullock legislation.

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Allen & Ross 10p to 40p	Asar Dairies 14p to 20p
Bracken Mines 5p to 7p	Ayer Hiram 5p to 7p
Daily Mail Text 10p to 25p	Golden Home 7p to 7 1/2p
Harjes 10p to 30p	Imp Cont Gas 3p to 3 1/2p
Health CE 12p to 40p	Jarvis J 6p to 12p
Johnson Grp 10p to 45p	Lea Asiatic 8p to 6 1/2p
Kitchen Taylor 5p to 20p	Metals Explor 8p to 23p
	Equities were quiet.
	City-edged securities edged ground.
	Sterling dropped 15 points to £1,716.0. The effective devaluation rate was 42.8 per cent.

The Times Index: 163.65 +0.17  
The FT Index: 389.7 +1.8

THE POUND	Bank	Bank
Australia \$ 1.63	1.53	1.53
Austria Sch 30.75	28.75	28.75
Belgium Fr 65.75	62.75	62.75
Canada \$ 1.80	1.75	1.75
Denmark Kr 10.52	10.12	10.12
Finland Mkk 6.75	6.50	6.50
France Fr 8.75	8.40	8.40
Germany Dm 4.20	4.05	4.05
Greece Dr 70.50	67.00	67.00
Holland Gld 3.30	3.25	3.25
Italy L 155.00	153.00	153.00
Japan Yen 315.00	490.00	490.00
Netherlands Gld 4.50	4.28	4.28
Norway Kr 9.35	9.00	9.00
Portugal Esc 58.00	54.50	54.50
S Africa R 2.20	2.05	2.05
Siam Pk 121.75	113.75	113.75
Sweden Kr 4.60	4.27	4.27
Switzerland Fr 4.49	4.27	4.27
US \$ 1.76	1.71	1.71
Yugoslavia Dn 33.25	32.75	32.75

### On other pages

Business appointments	20	Diary	19
Appointments vacant	23, 24	Market reports	20, 21
Financial news	20, 21	Wall Street	21
Letters	18	Share prices	22
		Bank Base Rates Table	21

### Company Meeting Reports:

Arthur Lee	17
Independent Newspapers	19
Interim Statement:	18
Dalgety	

**Arthur Lee & Sons Ltd.**

Producers and Stockists of Bright Bars, Cold Rolled Strip, Wire and Wire Rope in Carbon and Stainless Steels.

RESULTS: Year ended 30th September

	1976	1975
Turnover	46,967,000	42,243,000
Group Profit before Taxation	1,988,779	1,385,205
Group Profit after Taxation and Minority Interests	483,592	353,364
Earnings per 12 1/2p Share	2.43p	1.68p
Dividend per 12 1/2p Share	1.35p	1.15p

POINTS FROM THE STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR. H. P. FORDER

Pre-tax profit for the Group of £1,988,779 compares with £1,385,205 for the year 1975/6 an overall improvement reflecting varying fortunes in the different sections of our activities.

In the light of these figures and the currently somewhat better outlook for trading than was the case a year ago, an uplift in the dividend for the year from 1.15p to 1.35p per share is recommended.

The new year has on the whole started encouragingly and we are hopeful that the investments we have made in various parts of our Group in the past few years will assist us to seize whatever opportunities are presented by either a modest or a more steeply rising trade trend. A recent report from the National Economic Development Council invited our attention to the increasing pressures of demand which are likely to develop progressively over the next 18 months. Whilst regarding this forecast with a due amount of caution we believe we are steadily improving our ability to react responsively to it if it comes. With this in mind we shall indeed be disappointed if we do not achieve a noticeable improvement over the profit reported for the past two years.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, P.O. Box 54, Sheffield S9 1HU.

Financial Editor, page 19



Electrical contracting angry over Government refusal to exempt it from statutory rules

## Employer-union fight to keep disputes pact

By Maurice Corina

A refusal by the Government to allow a joint industrial agreement on unfair dismissals to be exempted from statutory employment protection machinery has brought fierce protests from both unions and employers in the electrical contracting industry.

Acting together, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union and the Electrical Contractors' Association yesterday decried the action "in the strongest fashion".

The employers and the union made their application, the first of its kind, as long ago as December, 1974, to exclude what they regard as a model disputes agreement from the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974.

Feelings are running high and a deputation went to the Department of Employment on Wednesday to reinforce their view at ministerial level.

Eight years ago the electrical contracting industry brought years of trouble to an end by establishing a

Joint Industry Board for handling disputes, discipline, and inquiries in a rapid way, with disputes committees operating at local level and the national board handling problems with great flexibility.

The industry went to the Government with the argument that it felt its procedure was superior to that conducted through industrial tribunals and that it had produced excellent industrial relations after a most troubled history.

The problem is that the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, gives employees a statutory right to bypass that Joint Industry Board's procedures because of the availability of industrial tribunals and official arbitration and conciliation machinery, enhanced by the Employment Protection Act.

Since it feels that employees, unions and employers who at present reach amicable solutions will be forced "into antagonism across the floor of a court of law", the industry board wants

exemption under Section 30 of the 1974 Act. This allows the Government to make orders of exemption if satisfied that certain conditions are met.

Yesterday's statement complained that the Government's response had been to raise a great number of technical and drafting points on the industry's application for exemption.

The nub of the rejection, according to the industry, was contained in a letter saying the application "cast doubt on the original thinking behind the exclusion provision".

Employers and the union complain that while pursuing its claim for exemption, the joint board had at no time met with or corresponded with any member of the Government. It had now gone to the Department of Employment to ensure ministers saw there were sound reasons for the application of a unique disputes procedure.

Protesting that Parliament would not have included an exemption provision if it was not intended that it would

be applied to suitable cases, the industry board states: "The Secretary of State cannot decide that a part of the law is, in his view, a mental aberration by Parliament and decide that he will not, therefore, operate that part of the law."

At the same time, an application which in a small way limited the burden upon the Arbitration, Conciliation and Advisory Service and industrial tribunals ought to be given every encouragement instead of every discouragement, the board added.

The award aim of the Trade Union Act was for industries to develop first class procedures for avoiding disputes.

Nine years of operating the electrical contracting disputes agreement had led to a high degree of expertise and acceptability, and it was a cornerstone of the industry's excellent relations that disputes were dealt with through the insistence on all sides that labour difficulties were handled by the industry board.

## Japan could raise ship prices 10pc in package deal with EEC

By Peter Hill

Export prices of Japanese-built ships are expected to rise by between 5 and 10 per cent over the next few weeks as a result of Japan's pledge to assist the beleaguered European shipbuilding industry by enabling it to obtain a larger share of world orders.

This was the estimate made by Japanese government officials yesterday in Paris after a three-day meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's working group on shipbuilding where European governments grudgingly accepted Japan's proposals.

European governments had been pressing for a 50-50 sharing of world orders for new ships—which the Japanese rejected totally—and the Europeans agreed to the Japanese package with some reservations.

The offer to increase export prices for a two-year period lasting until the end of next

year forms the most important element of the package, which will be implemented shortly, officials stressed that the eventual size of the increase would be decided in negotiation with Japanese shipbuilders.

Officials at the OECD conference indicated however that further price increases may be introduced if the initial increase proved to be insufficient to produce the hoped for diversion of orders from Japan to European yards.

Other elements of the Japanese package involve an offer to restrict ship sales to those European countries whose shipbuilding industries faced special difficulties and, if necessary, to introduce further reductions in working hours at shipyards in Japan if its share of world production rose above 50 per cent.

Mr Albert Gruebel, chairman of the working party, said after the final session that the

Japanese offer contained some very positive points and there had been agreement to proceed with discussions for as long as the crisis continued. He stressed, however, that the two sides still remained far apart on the possibility of sharing production, with the EEC demand for a 50-50 share still before the committee.

The committee failed to produce a joint statement on the latest session, which had been expected, and instead the OECD secretariat was asked to draft an interim progress report for further expert study.

The report is expected to stress the need for new machinery designed to detect imbalances, restore normal conditions of competition and accelerate the structural adaptation of the shipbuilding industries of OECD member countries. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled to take place at the end of next month.

## Ryder attack on CBI for 'denigrating' NEB

By Malcolm Brown

Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, yesterday criticized the Confederation of British Industry for denigrating the board.

"Not to put too fine a point on it, it is not very helpful to us to read in the CBI's published report, *The Road to Recovery*, that the NEB's 'interventionist powers could actively damage industry and must be repealed'," Lord Ryder said.

The board had absolutely no compulsory powers, Lord Ryder said, while delivering the Stockton lecture at the London Business School.

"It has the power to purchase shares but only if it can persuade shareholders to sell. It has to act in accordance with the City Takeover Code, the requirements of the Stock Exchange and in consultation with the Office of Fair Trading. In this respect, therefore,

it is in exactly the same position as any company in the private sector."

The authors of the report, he said, should have found time to talk to the NEB and discover more about what it was trying to do.

Turning to the Bullock report on industrial democracy, Lord Ryder implied that he could not be counted on to support the majority recommendations.

"Without getting into the debate on Bullock, one thing is clear: if this new arrangements can only be as effective as those who participate wish them to be. If the arrangements are such that most managers regard them as a 'hostile' imposition, they simply will not work."

Similarly, if the arrangements appear to employers to pay only lip-service to the concept of industrial democracy, nothing will have been achieved."

## DM175m state aid for ailing German bank

From Peter Norman

Bonn, Feb 10

The West German federal government has had to step in with DM175m (about £42.4m) of aid for the Deutsche Bau und Boden Bank AG, a bank specializing in housing finance in which Bonn has a stake of around 67 per cent.

A spokesman for the bank said today in Frankfurt that the cash was paid towards the end of last year, and took the form of a loan.

Thanks to this "extraordinary item" the bank will end its 1976 profit and loss account in balance with capital and reserves remaining intact.

The federal payment was needed to cover risks that had arisen in connection with the bank's financing of apartment building.

Unlike most German banks, which are "universal" in character, the Bau und Boden Bank is limited by law in its activities to housing finance.

## Strikes halt output of seven Leyland models

Work on seven Leyland

models was at a standstill yesterday because of two strikes which have caused lay offs for about 11,000 workers.

Latest victim yesterday was the Maxi model at Cowley, where 400 assembly men were sent home. Another 500 were hit at Luton, where 2,500 are now idle.

The strikes are at the Castle Bromwich body plant and the Triumph factory in Coventry. Production losses are mounting at a daily rate of more than 1,200 cars, worth more than £6m at showroom prices.

Cowley threat: More than 700 toolmakers at two Leyland plants in Oxford, the car body plant at Cowley and a component plant in North Oxford, have voted to begin a strike on February 18.

This was recommended by the Leyland tool room committee which represents 6,000 tool room workers seeking separate negotiations.

## Massey dispute reappraisal to be made at joint meeting

By Clifford Webb

A possible breakthrough in the strike which has closed Massey Ferguson's Coventry tractor plant for eight weeks could emerge on Monday from a meeting between union leaders and management.

The routine meeting of the company's national joint negotiating council has been arranged for some time. But, because of the losses of more than £50m caused by the strike, both sides have agreed to review their positions.

However, union officials were agreed yesterday that without some concession from the company, the chances of a return to work were slim. The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has declared the stoppage official and is giving its full backing to the 1,100 men who walked out on December 22.

The other big union involved, the Transport and General Workers' Union, has instructed its members not to cross picket lines. Mr Moss Evans, the

union's national organizer, is also chairman of the joint negotiating council.

He has insisted that Massey management is guilty of a flagrant breach of the agreed disputes procedure in that it took men off the clock for allegedly poor performance without exhausting the disputes procedure.

Yesterday Massey Ferguson and Perkins Engines, both United Kingdom members of the Canadian-owned Massey group, announced record exports and investment during 1976.

Exports of Massey farm machinery, industrial and construction equipment, and Perkins diesel engines reached £337m, an increase of 40 per cent over 1975. Investment totalled £23m, of which £14m was spent at Massey, and £10m at Perkins.

Japanese contract: Tokyo Kogyo, a Japanese car maker, said it will supply 2,000 diesel engines a year over four years to Perkins Engines group.

## Warning on legislating for Bullock

The Government would find

that it had a tiger by the tail if it tried to force through legislation on industrial democracy based on their majority Bullock report, Mr John Methven, director general of the Confederation of British Industry said in London last night.

Participation and involvement must begin at the grass roots, Mr Methven said. Addressing a meeting of the Institute of Public Relations he said people must be involved in decisions affecting their working environment.

The majority report attempted to impose a rigid, inflexible system of board level trade union representation on companies, regardless of whether it disenfranchised non-unionists, and regardless of existing arrangements.

"The majority report is more about power politics than improving employee involvement," Mr Methven said. He is to head a CBI team to see the Prime Minister on Tuesday to discuss the report.

The CBI would be asking the Prime Minister to avoid rigid legislation, Mr Methven said. Instead the CBI wanted to see a move towards its own proposals for participation agreements in companies employing over 2,000, backed up by legislation for a four-year time limit, after which an arbitrated agreement could be reached.

## Union calls for world boycott of Seagram goods

Geneva, Feb 10.—The International Union of Food and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF) said yesterday it had asked its 2.2 million members to boycott all products of Seagram Distillers because of an unresolved lockout dispute at its British Columbia plant.

An IUF congress here endorsed a union boycott of Seagram products already in force for several months in Canada and the United States and agreed to extend it worldwide.

A resolution adopted by the congress, held last month, accused Seagram of illegally locking out employees at its British Columbia plant on February 26, 1975, and of failing to comply with orders by the British Columbia Labour Relations Board to reemploy them.

The resolution also said Seagram refused to negotiate in good faith. The IUF said Seagram was continuing to send shipments of its products to markets previously served by the British Columbia plant.—Reuters.

## Cecil E. Watts

Tepea BV (formerly Theal BV), the Dutch distributor of Cecil E. Watts, a British manufacturer of record cleaning appliances, was fined 15,000 units of account by the European Commission late last year, and not 5,000 as was stated in a news agency report published in Business News on December 23.

The fine was for enforcing absolute territorial protection and for supplying false information to the Commission when notifying it of their distribution agreement. There was no finding by the Commission that Watts—which was fined 10,000 units of account, or £4,166, gave, or were in any way concerned in, the supplying of false information.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Anomaly in armed forces' pensions

From Mr Alfred J. Culler

Sir, I read with interest the article by Sir Eric Sachs on "Why the armed forces are over indexed pensions" (January 21). I agree with and fully support the points Sir Eric made, but as he dealt mainly with officers' pensions, may I point out the anomalies that also exist in the pensions of retired long-service NCOs of the Army and Royal Air Force, and senior ratings of the Royal Navy.

I retired from the Royal Navy in 1952 as a master-at-arms (Chief Petty Officer) after 24 years' service. My pension (before tax) is £636.43 per year, whilst a senior rating who retires now, receives £1,376 per year.

Sir Eric suggests, and I agree with him, that the "parity link" is the fairest method of assessing pensions, this would give those who retired in the 1950s and 50s the same pension as those that retire at present in the same rank. This would dispose of the 1971 Act and retail prices index link, as pensions would then keep pace with those awarded each year.

I do not oppose the pensions awarded to the present-day members of the armed forces, but I think these are still inadequate, but I would like to repair a phrase of the present Government, equal opportunities for all. I hope the facts presented by Sir Eric have some effect, but I am pessimistic, as for many years we have pressed successive governments to change the system, without suc-

cess. The same Treasury that pours millions into ailing and inefficient industries has always stated the cost would be too high.  
ALFRED J. CUTLER,  
10 Lamerton Close,  
West Park,  
Plymouth PL5 3RU,  
Devon.  
February 7.

From Mr H. F. T. Allaway

Sir, It is a sad reflection on the efficacy of the news media that they have still not got through to Mr Robert Harcourt (February 2).

1. that the proposition put originally to the Government was indeed a link with pay; but that, since at the time earnings were rising faster than prices, the Government insisted on the then cheaper alternative of a link with the prices index;

2. that, until this year, each year's increase in public sector pensions has been less than that in earnings, and thus has cost the taxpayer less than would have a link with earnings;

3. that to change the basis now, now that for the first year the public pensions increase is greater than the increase in earnings, would keep those pensions lagging behind both earnings and prices.

There was no public outcry when the present pension link was introduced; there will be no outcry when earnings again rise faster than prices. To campaign for a change now is

simply to cry "He falls I win".  
Yours faithfully,  
H. F. T. ALLAWAY,  
7 Steine Gardens,  
Brighton, Sussex.

From Mr P. G. Nu

Sir, I am afraid I am Mr Robert (February 2), mispoint at issue on of index linking public servants.

The problem is: index wages or index pensions? The treatment of public sector pensioners guaranteed index was defended while index was provided which is unfunded, main part non.

The important therefore, is the scheme is free from fraud and accounting; which control the funded schemes them from embezzlement comparable commi.

Finally, it is remember, in all very created by that criticism of not be levelled sector schemes, the nationalized fully funded and subject to all discipline upon private sector.

Yours faithfully,  
P. G. NU,  
2 Sheridan Place,  
Roxborough Park,  
Harrow, Middlesex.

## Construction industry in need of a united voice

From Mr Sydney Chapman

Sir, The letter from Sir Hugh Wilson and presidents of the main professional institutes concerned with the built environment (January 31), expressing profound anxiety about the effects on the construction industry of the recent cuts in public sector capital spending, is welcome if somewhat overdue.

But to those of us who normally work directly in, or indirectly for, the construction industry (2,250,000 representing nearly 10 per cent of the total United Kingdom working population) surely the most significant fact in the letter was the passage which pointed out that the industry and its professions "are fragmented and cannot adopt a militant stance against the loss of jobs."

Why not? I suggest there are two reasons why the world of construction does not have the influence it should in the corridors of power. The first is the geographical distribution of its workforce—spread evenly around the country. There are no "construction" seats as there are agricultural, mining or car manufacturing constituencies waiting to be swung at the drop of an electoral promise or threat.

Sir Hugh and the rest of us do little about this and a political consequence of our impotence is that government is prepared to pour hundreds of millions of pounds into Chrysler's to prevent the risk of 20,000 being made redundant, but is not minded to raise a finger to help more than ten times that number of construction workers who are already unemployed.

The second reason is our inability to speak with one voice. Our influence upon Whitehall and Westminster

is thus significantly diminished. If you doubt this, then compare the political pressure that the 300,000 farmers can bring to bear upon our legislators—even though the annual value of their output is only half that of construction (currently £13,000m in spite of being in the midst of its worst recession since the war).

Of course, this analogy is too simple but the parallel is made to underline the fact that the hill farmer from Cumbria and the crop-sprayer in Cambridgeshire seem able to join together under the umbrella of the NFU in a way which seems impossible to the architect, builder and concrete. I will only add, as a former MP, that the anti-vivisection league has more overt influence on the House of Commons than the huge construction industry.

Lobbying may be distasteful to the construction industry professionals but it is a political fact of life. The presidents of the Committee for Urban Environment could do no better than use their considerable standing and influence within their own institutes to bring them together and encourage other parts of the greatest industry in the country to unite into a confederation of construction and building (or some such other designation).

Until they can do this, they may continue to wail eloquently after the recession has bitten deep into the industry, but they will never actually stop government in future from using construction as the easy regulator of the stop-go economic cycle.

Yours faithfully,  
SYDNEY CHAPMAN,  
33-35 Gloucester Terrace,  
London W2 6DX.  
January 31.

Until they can do this, they may continue to wail eloquently after the recession has bitten deep into the industry, but they will never actually stop government in future from using construction as the easy regulator of the stop-go economic cycle.

Yours faithfully,  
H. W. BAUER,  
Repton School,  
Derbyshire.  
February 6.

## Factors in the pricing of gas and electricity

From Mr Bryan C. Smith

Sir, I doubt if Mr Worham (January 31) would find many gas customers on his side in his plea for parity pricing with electricity, particularly those who have chosen gas for heat-

processes. With natural gas hardly any of the energy content is lost on the way from the North Sea to the consumer, whereas with electricity some 65 per cent of the oil or coal used is dissipated in generation and distribution.

Even allowing for the greater utilization efficiency of most electrical appliances, gas remains overwhelmingly the more efficient overall. It is right that this fact should be reflected in the price since it leads the consumer choice which is a right one in energy terms.

In addition, the place of imported gas before the increase to be saving some £250m a year balance of payment.

Yours faithfully,  
BRYAN C. SMITH,  
Member for Market  
British Gas Corpora  
326 High Holborn,  
London WC1V 7PT.

## INTERIM

# Dalgety

## Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31st December 1976

The Group has succeeded in marginally improving its first half-year's profits compared with the corresponding period in 1975/6.

These results would have been substantially better except for three factors. Firstly, the adverse effect on our marketing operations of reduced demand from the distillers and the high barley prices resulting from the almost unprecedented drought and poor harvest in the U.K.; secondly, the lengthy and

expensive strike in the Californian frozen food industry which closed our plants for several weeks; and thirdly, the continuation of difficult trading conditions in Australia, which, however, are now showing signs of slow improvement.

The Group's better profit performance in New Zealand and Canada is expected to continue.

R. A. Withers—Chairman.

	Half year to 31.12.76 £ million	Half year to 31.12.75 £ million	Year to 30.6.76 £ million
<b>Profits before taxation</b>			
Australia	1.0	1.0	1.2
New Zealand	2.2	1.2	5.3
United Kingdom	4.2	5.1	7.4
Canada	2.2	0.6	2.5
United States of America	(0.8)	0.6	0.7
Central Income and Expenses	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.5)
Interest on Eurocurrency Loans	(0.5)	(0.4)	(1.0)
<b>Group profit before tax</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>
<b>Group profit after tax</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Ordinary shareholders funds</b>	<b>108.7</b>	<b>102.3</b>	<b>110.2</b>
<b>Loan capital</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>70.8</b>
<b>Short term borrowings</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>59.4</b>
<b>Earnings per £1 ordinary share</b>	<b>10.8p</b>	<b>15.0p</b>	<b>26.1p</b>
<b>Dividend per £1 ordinary share</b>	<b>5.2393%</b>	<b>4.763%</b>	<b>8.94245%</b>

Note: The decline in Group profits after tax is due to a higher than normal tax charge resulting from the Group's inability to offset losses in the USA against profits in other countries.

Copies of the full Interim Report are available from The Secretary, Dalgety Limited,  
70 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 3PA. Telephone number 01-499 7712.

## White Child & Beney Limited

To our shareholders:

- ★ Keep WCB free
- ★ Do not be pressured into a hasty decision
- ★ Reject the inadequate price offered by Guinness

The Directors of White Child & Beney have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the stated facts and the opinions expressed here are fair and accurate. They jointly severally accept responsibility accordingly.

## Business Diary: C





BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Second thoughts on Morpeth

It is wrong at this stage to off the Morpeth proposals as a fact. The six months following the discussion following publication of the exposure is only half way through a steering group has so far not more than a few written submissions, or, it should not be for either that before the was produced extensive than was held with 120 les and that the steering thought its own part presented a fair balance views.

At the same time it is not there is a powerful well of opposition both within the accountancy ion and from perhaps matters of most the directors in industry could have to implement a new system of pre-accounts. The purpose exposure draft is, of precisely to sound out us of interested parties the light of the opinions emerging to emerge it improbable that the draft can go through a very extensive modification, the objections in 7 differ widely but common strands are apparent. One is that posed time scale for edou of full inflation is too rapid. Some like longer to discuss it us would like to see it in by stages. Others ay it is wrong to intro- new system first for mpanies and then for

objections are not, per- a fundamental nature, is no shortage of these. The common feature that the Morpeth prop- are seen as too wide, attempting to embrace ersal areas, often of detail instead of sticking a where it is possible to fair measure of agree- A particular source of is the degree of subje- involved in the Morpeth- appropriation account. Some finance directors ising even more basic -such as whether there is any inflation proof- balance sheets, or it should be restricted profit and loss accounts, is a further, and appar- growing school of t, that wants to stick storic cost accounts, of if current cost account- ily being shown in

lying all of this would to be a growing concern he complexity and com- bility of the exposure f such views were really ice in strength, it could not of the assumptions ing the Morpeth propo- k into the melting pot.

d Qualcast sting in idries ies account for slightly in half of Birmid Qual- apital employed but in weeks to last October 9 per cent of the profit (interest) on 60 per cent ales. being the Aunt Sally ish industry—too much, too little investment—riving foundries have aming through a reces- t increased profits. ine have been improving at Birmid's foundries m 2.2 per cent the pre- at 9.4 per cent—and government encourage- and a £40m assistance. Investment has been ating. e, Birmid's plans for of foundry investment, ven years, which started nbs ago, the bulk of s still to be spent. Pm will come from the ment, but that will not



Mr Rupert Withers, chairman of Dalgety: US losses hit net profits.

even pay for the essential environmental improvements. The group's iron foundries account for a third of the automotive castings in the United Kingdom and in turn is a third of the total, while its light alloy foundries are 15 per cent of the total.

The exposure is high but so are the potential rewards. Less than one quarter of castings go to British Leyland, which is giving a much clearer indication of its future requirements than in the past, while castings or cars have been cut back from 40 per cent to a third of output. An increase in industrial production will pay off the investment handsomely. Meanwhile, the problem for Birmid is that after two reorganizations, the Potters Radiator business bought for £5.75m in 1973 is still not making money and that the lawnmower division needs a wet spring.

Profit after 65 weeks at £14.6m (against £10.9m for the previous 52 weeks) shows no significant growth in the last 13 weeks, so although funding of the capital investment is no problem it could be a long haul before it pays off.

Final 1975-76 (1974-75) Capitalization — (£44.2m) Sales £211.9m (£159.9m) Pre-tax profits £14.6m (£10.9m) Earnings per share 11p (8.1p) Dividend gross 7.67p (5.53p) \* 65 weeks

### Gilts 'Shorts' lead the advance

The Treasury Bill market may now be behaving more in line with Bank of England objectives—it looks as if tomorrow's Treasury Bill tender will probably be consistent with a 12 per cent MLR—but the steady advance at the short-end of the gilt market is clearly reflecting continuing confidence that short-term rates are likely to be allowed to fall further before too long.

That said, the short-end of the gilt market is also receiving a helping hand from the current technical situation. Two stocks are clearly reflecting continuing confidence that short-term rates are likely to be allowed to fall further before too long.

On the one hand, then, there is the feeling that the authorities are actual or potential buyers. On the other, there is the realization that the redemption of these two stocks will considerably reduce the supply of low coupon—high taxpayers'—stock in the market. Hence the fact that it has been very much a case of the low coupon

stocks leading the advance: a number of the higher coupon stocks have still failed to regain their peaks of a year ago.

Sketchley/Johnson

### Logical but...

The logic of Sketchley's bid for Johnson Group Cleaners is not hard to find. As Sketchley says, the two companies' dry cleaning businesses do not overlap geographically, and a merger will not involve significant closures. Equally, there is no danger of a national monopoly being formed, since although the combined groups would have unrivalled national coverage, they would still account for less than a quarter of the very fragmented market.

However, the stock market seems unimpressed by logic at this stage sensing that this is only the first shot in a protracted bid battle. At 48p, up 18p yesterday, Johnson's shares have moved 4p ahead of Sketchley's bid. Unimpressed by an historic exit p/e ratio of just under nine and an offer that is pitched 244p below its net asset value Johnson's board is advising rejection. At this stage shareholders should take that advice.

Dalgety

### A mixed picture

With pre-tax profits at £8.1m, some £2m below upper market estimates, Dalgety's shares started the day badly before ending up all square at 250p, where the prospective yield is 6.1 per cent.

But if profits were not inspiring, attributable profits (down from £9.9m to £2.8m) were even more so, following unoffsettable losses in the United States which helped lift the tax rate from 46 per cent to 59 per cent. Something which should improve the second half.

Imported steel in the United States has proved difficult to move in the sluggish economic climate while the grain trade suffered a reaction after a good start to high prices. But the real damage was done by a month-long strike in the Californian frozen food industry, which closed the group's plant in part of September and October. The United States operations lost £800,000 against a profit of £600,000, on sales up from £41.2m to £44.7m.

However, elsewhere in northern America, Dalgety's Canadian lumber interests rode high on the increased United States housing starts (the most important indicator) with the region contributing profits of £2.2m compared with £600,000.

Australasia was a mixed bag with New Zealand continuing its substantial recovery, but Australia remained difficult, with beef exports falling.

The major trading area, the United Kingdom, was fairly hard-pressed, down from £5.1m to £4.2m—as distillers, squeezed for cash by the increased excise duty, cut back demand and barley prices soared because of the drought.

However, the second half should be better—with pre-tax profits for the full year at upwards of £17m. The Californian strike is over and there should be considerable scope for restocking while imported steel should be easier to move once the United States economy really starts moving. The benefits of the Australian devaluation should also start making an impact.

Interim 1976-77 (1975-76) Capitalization £62.4m Sales £376m (£290m) Pre-tax profits £8.1m (£7.8m) Dividend gross 8.06p (7.33p)

## Industrial strategy 4: domestic electrical appliances

# One step back from disaster

On the basis that one does not kick a man when he is down, Denis Healey was most ungenerously when he introduced the 25 per cent luxury rate of value added tax on domestic electrical appliances in May, 1975.

The industry was already suffering from the effects of increased imports and diminishing home market demand. As a result, throughout 1975 and during the early part of last year demand was severely depressed, the industry had a serious surplus of capacity and high stock levels. Several companies were forced to introduce short-time working and redundancies.

Credit control restrictions were eased at the end of 1975 and the rate of VAT halved in last spring's Budget. Nevertheless, the National Economic Development Office working party on this sector of industry felt it necessary to point out to the Treasury that the success of its programme for recovery in the industry rests primarily on the creation of a permanent degree of confidence within it. Consequently it has

suggested a series of guidelines for using indirect taxation and credit control to help achieve an orderly and stable home market.

Sympathetic expressions of understanding have elicited back to the working party from the Chancellor's office and now that domestic electrical appliances is one of the five sectors singled out for priority treatment it would be seen as a breach of faith if the industry were to be dealt any further body-blow at Budget time.

Since its establishment last spring the sector working party has made significant progress in identifying and correcting short-term problems. Demand has been improving and while capacity is still underutilized, steps have been taken to remove potential supply bottlenecks which would have occurred if sustained high demand were created.

The industry has put pressure on the British Steel Corporation to improve its delivery and quality. It recently cut some prices affecting the industry and some delivery problems have been ironed out. Quality, how-

ever, still leaves much to be desired.

Other sector working parties and the industrial strategy coordinating bodies have been told of problems with plastic mouldings, electric motors, toughened glass, aluminium casings and copper and the suppliers are endeavouring to resolve the difficulties.

As component supply difficulties ease they will not only make the British industry more competitive but also reduce dependence on imports, both of components and finished products. The Italians have almost been eradicated from the British market for 4 cu ft and 5 cu ft fridge freezers, and dependence on imported components such as compressors for refrigerators and freezers is being reduced. Specific attention is being given to increasing home supply of timer controls for cookers.

The Government has also helped the industry to sort out some of its exporting problems. The EEC "low-voltage directive" which came into force in 1973 has been shown to be less of an obstacle to European

sales than at first thought. The real problem lay within the industry. It had traded almost exclusively in the Commonwealth and did not know the European types. Experience and smoothing the way proved to be the solution.

Claims of unfair competition in the United Kingdom from dumped Italian washing machines have been pressed in the EEC Commission, but at present are stalled while further evidence is gathered.

The sector working party is now turning its attention to a more medium-term strategy based on a four point plan.

It wants to see the amount of capital per worker employed increased and such is the resurgence of confidence within the sector that several investment projects have been announced or revived. However, for instance, has at last approved the expansion of its home laundry plant at Merthyr Tydfil which will create 2,000 jobs by early 1979. Hopton is contemplating large investment in a new plant and Thorn is developing its capability in the North-East. The working party is also

assessing the impact of the swing towards "own brand" marketing by multiples and cooperatives which are increasingly dominating the industry's retail outlets. Continued study of import penetration and its underlying causes is to be undertaken and the methods of attracting investment to the United Kingdom by component manufacturers are being reviewed.

A statistical appraisal of progress expected by the end of the decade has been drawn up and will be presented by the working party within the next month. While the working party knows there is still a long way to go snatching the industry from the abyss it, faced 18 months ago, it knows it has a good grip and a sound plan for pulling the potential victim back from the brink.

There is no point, however, in telling the world opposition how you are going to fight back, just so long as Mr Healey does not use one of your hands behind your back.

Ronald Emley

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent

## Making room on the office desk for the microcomputer

A new idea in computer programming, announced yesterday by a London software house, is doubly significant. It is an advance in technology in its own right; and it gives a pointer to the way in which the National Enterprise Board's new "Insac" scheme will work to strengthen the computer industry's overseas marketing.

The software house is Computer Analysts & Programmers, in which the NEB is negotiating a 30 per cent stake. The new idea is a method of programming the microprocessors and microcomputers that will be the building blocks of tomorrow's data processing (and of many other things).

In particular, it offers the prospect of applying the benefits of microprocessor hardware to the software side of the business, with low cost to the needs of business data processing.

This has not happened up to now because of the difficulty and expense of programming these devices for business use; potentially, the impact of microcomputers in business could bring "distributed" processing down literally to the individual level.

### Benefits of mass production

The microprocessor is a microcircuit which can be programmed to handle various processing jobs. Thus the basic circuit (and, indeed, the basic microcomputer, which consists of a microprocessor and memory and other elements mounted on a circuit board) can be mass-produced and then tailored to different uses by programming.

But whereas the microcircuit may cost only a few pounds, the bespoke programming can cost thousands.

In conventional computing, as in business—not overnight, not next year, possibly not at all. But they will give a new flexibility to an organization's data processing, and the market potential is high for systems which enable the power of the microcomputer to be harnessed effectively.

The new development is seen by CAP as a natural choice for international marketing under the Insac arrangements announced last week by the National Enterprise Board. If the proposed acquisition by the NEB of a 30 per cent stake in CAP is approved by the shareholders (virtually all of whom are company staff), CAP will become the first software-house participant in Insac Data Systems.

Insac's detailed plans have yet to be decided, but the broad initial aim of the NEB subsidiary will be to market a selection of hardware and soft-



Mr Alex d'Agapeyeff, chairman of Computer Analysts & Programmers: Microcomputers "capable of automating the work of a single clerk, or providing a local data-base for a single executive."

ware products and services on behalf of its participant-companies.

The particular package of products to be marketed in particular countries will be decided by the Insac board, on which the NEB and the member-companies will be represented.

Later, Insac intends to support the development of new products as well as their marketing.

This new type of NEB/industry involvement (though depending on an "old type" NEB financial stake in the companies concerned) is intended to strengthen the United Kingdom presence in overseas computer-related markets. It is an alternative to mergers as a way of gaining benefits of scale and cost-cutting the great resources of the main computer-services companies in the United States and on the continent of Europe.

In terms of company size, for instance, seven of the top 10 computer services companies in Europe are French; none is British.

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CAP next went on to identify the most promising type of application for microcomputers in business. According to Alex d'Agapeyeff, CAP chairman, this is likely to be a single terminal design, costing perhaps half as much as a small mini-computer but, and this is the important implication for the future, "capable of automating the work of a single clerk, or providing a local data-base for a single executive."

Individual microcomputers are clearly not going to replace existing large computer systems in business—not overnight, not next year, possibly not at all. But they will give a new flexibility to an organization's data processing, and the market potential is high for systems which enable the power of the microcomputer to be harnessed effectively.

The new development is seen by CAP as a natural choice for international marketing under the Insac arrangements announced last week by the National Enterprise Board. If the proposed acquisition by the NEB of a 30 per cent stake in CAP is approved by the shareholders (virtually all of whom are company staff), CAP will become the first software-house participant in Insac Data Systems.

Insac's detailed plans have yet to be decided, but the broad initial aim of the NEB subsidiary will be to market a selection of hardware and soft-

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## Greek merchant fleet gambles on expansion

The Greeks, who today own more ships than any other nationality in the world, are defying the odds and enlarging their fleets, despite the persisting slump in freight, on the gamble that better days lie ahead.

The Greek-owned merchant fleet now amounts to more than 4,600 ships of 51 million tons gross, a 160 per cent increase in a decade.

Of this fleet, 3,300 ships of some 30 million tons are on the Greek registry. This places Greece fifth in world tonnage, after Liberia, Japan, the United Kingdom and Norway.

In fact, Liberia's merchant navy includes 587 Greek-owned vessels of nearly 19 million tons gross. The rest of the Greek-owned fleet operates under other flags of convenience such as Cyprus (571 ships of 2.3 million tons) and Panama.

The Greek shipowners, undeterred by world economic recession and rising oil prices, are adding to their fleet at an unprecedented rate, taking, no doubt, advantage of the sharp decline in price in shipyards as well as for second-hand ships.

In 1976 they took delivery of 132 new ships of 8.2 million tons deadweight. The breakdown of this order shows that they were quick to adjust to changing conditions. Only 33 of these vessels were tankers. The rest consisted of hand-sized bulk carriers and general cargo ships which fare better on the freights market.

Orders placed in 1976 reflected this trend even stronger. There were no orders for tankers. All the 211 ships of 4.7 million tons deadweight now on order at an estimated cost of \$1,500m (£874m) were bulk-carriers and freighters. About nine tenths of all orders went, significantly, to Japanese yards which kept their prices 25-30 per cent below Europe's.

The Greeks also went on a shopping spree for second-hand ships in 1976. This netted them 336 ships of 5.6 million tons gross, adding most of bulk-carriers and freighters.

This big expansion is causing some apprehension among the old-timers. Mr Anthony Chandris, president of the Greek Shipowners' Union, voiced scepticism about the wisdom of this policy. He forecast a gloomy 1977, although one hopeful sign is that idle Greek-owned tonnage dropped to some eight million tons deadweight, down from the record of about three million tons deadweight of tankers from lay-up.

Mr Chandris and other leaders of Greek shipping, however, base their optimism not only on international uncertainties but also on increasing discrimination in favour of national carriers or the flags of developing nations.

Shipping makes a major contribution to the Greek economy. The balance of payments profited by some \$875m from shipping earnings, including some \$40m in shipowners' taxes and about \$64m in voluntary contributions in support of the Greek armed forces.

More than 120,000 families of Greek seamen live off this branch of the economy and existing vacancies could give work to many more if Greece were not among the few privileged countries free from an unemployment problem.

As things stand today, however, the Greeks keep their fingers crossed unless a major shipping crisis spells doom, and hope that the bunch of most Greek shipowners that better days are round the corner will prove true.

Mario Modiano

## Independent Newspapers Limited

Extracts from Report of the Chairman Mr. R. T. Murphy in the Independent Newspapers Ltd. Annual Report for year ending December 31, 1976.

"As indicated in the interim statement to shareholders in August 1976 the year has witnessed a substantial degree of profit recovery from the depressed levels of 1974 and 1975. Profits before tax for 1976 amounted to £1,363,000. This represents an improvement of some 30 per cent over the previous peak year of 1973. Your Board is proposing a final dividend of 18 per cent, which makes a total of 25 per cent for the year compared with 18 per cent last year. The National Readership survey for 1976 published recently, emphasises the predominant position of the Company's publications in Ireland. It is estimated that more than four fifths of all adults in Ireland read one or more of our group's publications each week."

### Financial Highlights

	1976	1975
Group Turnover	£2,000	£2,000
Profit before Tax	£1,363	£446
Profit after Tax	£697	£375
Earnings per Share	13.15p	7.08p
Dividend per Share	4.07p	2.93p

Copies of the Director's Report and Statement of Accounts for 1976 from: John Mitchell, Secretary, Independent House, Dublin 1.

## Business Diary: Geneen, Hamilton and ITT • Accounting for taste

Child Limited who is British and who some in the City view as "the local boy who grew up" is finally going to some of his power at International Telephone Telegraph Corporation. The company may therefore be seen as entering a phase after years of stasis from the United States since its establishment. Geneen will retire as the company's chief executive officer nearly 20 years at the end of the year, but will retain the company's chairmanship which ensure him power over its firm planning.



Harold Geneen.



... and Lyman Hamilton.

and as having a sense of humour (attributed not normally applied to Geneen) and who greatly enjoys ice hockey (Geneen has no time for sports).

In Brussels, the site of ITT's European head office, the power Geneen wielded resulted, for example, in special tax benefits for foreign residents ("the ITT law" was once called) and permission to plant a monstrous office block in a beautiful suburb.

The company supported former President Nixon and was active in pre-Pinchot Chile. Geneen seems to have revelled in controversy; it will be interesting to see if Hamilton can impose his own style. Will he, for example, be invited to join the United States Business Council, which rebuffed Geneen's efforts to join?

### Off the panel

There was obviously some unfinished business when two months ago, it was announced that Bill Samuel's David MacDonald was to succeed Martin Harris as director-general of the City's Panel on Takeovers and Mergers.

Harris, who had been a senior partner with accountants Price Waterhouse before joining the panel, had said: "I don't know yet quite what I will be doing when my term ends."

Well, now we know. When he leaves at the end of next month he will be going to Reckitt and Colman, where two months later he will be the executive director for finance and planning.

Mason is to retire, although the board has yet to name a successor. The deputy chairman and chief executive of the food, dyestuffs and pharmaceuticals group is James Cleminson.

If it is surprising that Harris is not to return to Price Waterhouse, then his Reckitt and Colman job is the nearest alternative.

Harris was responsible for



Reckitt & Colman's Martin Harris.

the Reckitt and Colman audit in his PW days, and 20 years earlier he had been the assistant to the partner who had to be involved in the bringing together of the Reckitt and Colman interests.

It was during Harris's time at the panel that the body approved Reckitt and Colman's eventually successful £7m bid for the Winsor and Newton artists' materials interests.

He will take over from Sir Michael Colman, director of planning and control. Sir Michael is to assume control of the group's British business in the place of John West, who (and here's yet another loose end) is to take up a new overseas appointment details of which will be announced as soon as possible.

Harris will be among political as well as business friends in his new job. The panel is a plank of the City's self-regulation policy.

### Taxing language

Personal taxation accountants might care to ponder remarks about the Inland Revenue made by Sir Idwal Pugh today in his first report as "Ombudsman".

The new Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration could put a number of his brethren out of business were the taxmen and women to heed what he says.

Sir Idwal reports that many people complain to him about tax difficulties not because of some particular piece of maladministration by the Inland

Revenue but because they cannot understand what the department is on about.

He says: "The complexities of tax law, coupled with the need for official explanations to be factually accurate, tend to encourage the use by tax offices of a 'tax language' that is often difficult for the average taxpayer to understand unless he is supported by professional advice."

This misuse of language, he goes on, is infectious as well as impenetrable. "Indeed," he complains, "I sometimes find it difficult to avoid 'tax language' in my own reports."

Sir Idwal has been a civil servant for 30 years and must therefore have either handled or even dispensed as much officialness as anybody.

His reformation, however, is particularly welcome, for it is only when a senior civil servant himself starts to complain about gobbledygook that other civil servants in departments like the Inland Revenue will start to pay attention.



## Aircraft industry boosts exports to a record £903m

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Exports worth £903.9m were recorded by the British aircraft manufacturing industry in 1976, £102.6m above the record level for the previous year, according to figures issued yesterday by the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

The total was produced, "despite uncertainties resulting from parliamentary debate on government plans to nationalize a major part of the aircraft and guided weapons sector, and the continuing world-wide recession in civil aerospace trade", the society said.

Exports returns continued to reflect the industry's success in not only keeping pace with the world market but also in some sectors in substantial improvement.

Two examples were guided weapons, where the British Aircraft Corporation had an order book for the Raptor missile worth £500m, and in aeronautical instruments which totalled nearly £400m in the year under review, compared with £14.3m in the previous year, and £8.4m in 1974.

## UK orders for machine tools start to revive

By Edward Townsend

Britain's machine tool industry is continuing to experience a healthy increase in orders. Latest figures show that in the three months to the end of November last year, the value of new orders for machine tools, to account for almost two thirds of the new business received during the period. This represents a higher proportion than at any time in this decade.

Home orders were 109 per cent higher than a year earlier, while export contracts rose in value by 71 per cent to £28m.

Trade and Industry, which publishes the figures, says that total sales of £49m for the three months showed an increase of 14 per cent over the previous three months. Although some of this is due to recovery from the summer holiday period and recent price increases, the figure is encouraging.

Machine tool sales in 1976 were £13.9m higher than in a year earlier, but export sales, at £4m, were down by 10 per cent.

The industry's total order books totalled £198m at the end of November and although this is slightly higher than the low level reached in July last year, it is still 22 per cent down on the autumn figures for 1975.

### In brief

## January building society receipts may be up £70m

Building society net receipts for January, to be announced today, are expected to show a substantial rise to between £60m to £100m compared with £27m in December and £23m in November.

Even better news for prospective homebuyers is the forecast that the February trend continues to the societies will be ready to discuss the lowering of interest rates at their mid-April meeting. The mortgage market is expected to show a record level of 121 per cent and the rate paid to investors 7.8 per cent grossing up to 12 per cent for the basic rate taxpayer.

### 'Healey disease' causes Lloyd's brain drain

A "brain-drain" was hardly to be wondered at with the insurance broking industry suffering from the excessive taxation and freeze upon remuneration of its "Healey disease". Mr Peter Miller, chairman, told the annual meeting of Lloyd's Insurance Brokers' Association in London yesterday.

Any young London broker with flair can earn twice as much overseas and be taxed at, perhaps, half the British rate, he said.

### Steel output up 15pc

British steel production last month rose by nearly 15 per cent compared with the corresponding period of last year. Figures from the British Steel Corporation and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association showed that average weekly production in January was 450,100 tonnes.

### RAF freighter sale

All ten of the Royal Air Force fleet of Short Belfast turbo-prop freighter aircraft have been sold.

### Business appointments

## Reckitt and Colman makes directorial changes

Mr M. Harris, at present director-general of the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, is to join the board of Reckitt and Colman when his term of office ends on March 31. Initially, the appointment will be non-executive, but from June 1, he will become a full-time member with a view to assuming executive responsibility for finance and planning. Sir John Colman, at present director of planning and control, will become responsible for the United Kingdom side of the business in place of Mr J. J. West. Mr West will be taking an overseas appointment. The present chairman, Mr A. M. Mason, is to retire in May, but will remain a non-executive member of the board. Mr H. C. Askew will also be retiring.

Mr G. H. Wilson and Mr T. R. M. Kinsey, group financial director and chairman of the food and components divisions respectively of Delta Metal are re-appointed joint managing directors from April 1. They will be responsible to the chairman and chief executive, Lord Caldecote. Mr A. F. Thomas, deputy chairman, continues to be responsible for the overseas division and as deputy chief executive of the group. Mr R. A. H. Thomas, managing director of Delta Metal's components division, also becomes chairman. Mr R. W. Fordham, managing director of Delta Extruded Metals, is made chairman and managing director of the rod division. Mr E. J. B. Raine becomes financial controller. Mr F. O. Harding, group chief accountant, is treasurer and chief accountant. Mr E. W. Webber has been made an executive director and Dr A. B. Chilver a non-executive director of Delta Metal.

Mr D. C. C. Jessel, chairman of Sunley Investments Trust, will be made deputy chairman and chief executive of Sunley Investments Trust when it is taken over by the Sunley Investments Corporation and of Sun Atlantic Securities Corporation.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### Stock markets

## Gilts good but shares hold up

Equities stood up well to the doubts now being raised over the next phase of the incomes policy and with the help of "bear" closing managed some small gains.

But the encouragement of this week's money supply figures, and a lower estimate of public-sector borrowing needs, made for a brighter picture in gilts where switching from long dates left "mediums" and "shorts" between a half and a full point better. "Longs" themselves ended with gains of one-quarter.

The FT Index, 2.5 up at 11 am, weakened a little after the initial interest but did not fall.

On returning to their offices, shipping jobs were surprised by the strength of late inquiry for the little traded Atlantic Shipping. The shares were moved up 3 1/2 to 3 1/4 after the official close. Having sold its ships, the company gets its income from investment and an obvious attraction is an asset value of more than £5.

Far and closed 1.8 ahead at 399.7. Dealers took the performance as further evidence that equities are now passing through a period of consolidation and point out that there has been no selling pressure this week, even though the index has dropped more than 14 points.

The fifth round of oil production licences gave the oil sector a firmer-than-average look. The three most active stocks of the day were BP, up 1 1/2 to 92.5p, Burmah 1p to 75p, and Tricentral 4p to 140p. Shell ended 5p ahead at 515p, while others with North Sea interest to meet with demand were Clyde Petroleum 10p to 122p, Associated Newspapers 10p to 154p, Thomson Organisation 10p to 405p and Carless Capel 3p to 33p.

Breweries were softer after news of an inquiry into beer prices and profits. Among those

Company	Ord	Div	250	Pay	Year	Pre
(and par value)			date		total	year
Watsham's (25p) Int	1.5	1.3	—	—	2.1	1.85
London & Lom Int (25p) Fin	1.15	1.1	—	—	2.4	2.35
Ang-Amer Secs (25p) Int	1.64	1.3	1.4	—	3.2	3.04
Burwick Timpo (25p) Int	0.7	1.83	—	—	2.5	2.4
Cardinal Int (25p) Fin	2.13	1.7	—	—	3.8	3.6
Dalgety (51p) Int	5.24	4.76	1.7	—	5.0	4.5
G. Dew (25p) Fin	3.2	2.89	28.3	—	5.0	4.5
Elbief Co (5p) Int	0.35	0.35	12.4	—	0.7	0.7
Goldhill Property (25p) Int	0.5	0.5	1.4	—	1.0	1.0
MFI Warehouses (10p) Int	1.56	1.37	31.3	—	2.9	2.82
Plastic Cons (10p) Fin	2.46	2.38	—	—	3.7	3.58
William Ramsay (25p) Fin	2.0	1.8	—	—	3.8	3.6
Rawlings Bros (25p) Int	0.62	0.62	—	—	1.2	1.2
Reckitt Knitwear (5p) Int	1.0	0.8	7.4	—	1.8	1.6
Scots Agricultural (5p) Fin	6.8	6.8	1.4	—	11.2	10.4
Tricentral (25p) Int	6.8	6.8	1.4	—	11.2	10.4
Updown Invest (25p) Fin	1.33	1.35	25.3	—	1.55	1.35
Weber Holdings (50p) Fin	8.36	9.98	—	—	10.11	11.73
Wood Bastow (20p) Int	2.0	1.0	12.4	—	1.13	0.8
Bernard Wardle (10p) Int	0.7	0.7	2.4	—	1.13	0.8
Birmah Coal (25p) Fin	5.76	2.4	—	—	4.98	3.62
Gen Funds Int (25p) Int	3.05	2.5	1.4	—	4.1	3.55

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. For 65 weeks. 4 Adjusted for scrip issue. 5 For 15 months. 6 To reduce disparity between payments.

Another peak for G Dew

Last July Oldham-based G. Dew was confident that the 1975-76 results would vie with the previous year's record.

In fact, pre-tax profits in the year to October 31 scaled a fresh peak. They reached £13.8m, against £12.7m. Turnover was £14.75m compared with £13.95m.

As forecast, a gross dividend of 7.7p is paid on the capital enlarged by last year's rights issue, compared with the previous year's 6.96p paid on the smaller capital.

The board of Dew, a civil engineering contractor and industrial builder reports that the UK workload is slightly better than at this time last year.

Plastic Construction profits at £405,000

Margins are narrowing at Plastic Construction as an 18 per cent rise in second-half profits to £240,000 took the pre-tax total up 6 per cent to a record £405,000 in the year to September 30. Turnover rose from £5.1m to £6.4m.

So the full year's margins fell from 7.46 per cent to 6.23 per cent despite the second half rise. The dividend rises from 5.2p gross to 5.71p though earnings are only 8.09p against 9.24p thanks to minorities.

The board says that turnover and indirect exports are growing. Home investment remains depressed and production is below capacity.

However, given a recovery in industrial investment, "the group is firmly based to take advantage without undue increases in operating costs".

Watsham's in £1.3m deal with Hawker

The directors of Watsham's have agreed in principle for Hawker Siddeley Group to buy the power transmission and special projects activities for £1.3m cash. Watsham's plans to continue making its specialisation towers for the telecommunications and oil industries.

Duple International

The 522nd ordinary shares in Duple International which were held by Bowman Ltd and in

Orion jumps 31 pc to record £9.7m

Orion Bank, the London consortium bank specialising in Eurocurrency financing, increased its pre-tax profits by 31.7 per cent last year to a record £9.7m, thanks chiefly to a significant increase in fee income from investment banking and the impact of sterling's depreciation on commercial banking profits.

In underlying terms there was little increase in the size of the bank's loan portfolio, but the effect of currency fluctuations helped to produce an increase in sterling terms from £4.75m to £6.22m. Deposits grew from £555m to £921m, while capital, helped by new subordinated loans of £10.6m, grew from £27.3m to £45.1m.

Reed & Mallik rise on bid from Hamillborne

Hamillborne, an investment company is bidding around £640,000 for Reed & Mallik, the civil engineering group. It already holds about 28 per cent of Reed, and it now offers 20 shares and 675p cash for every 45 Reed shares. This is equal to 26.1p a share. The shares went ahead 2 1/2 on the news to 25 1/2.

Reed shareholders may choose to receive 2 1/2p for every 45 Reed shares to give a total of 26.1p a share in cash.

This cash alternative depends on the bid going unconditional, and will only be available for acceptance up to the first closing date of the offer.

Hamillborne says that its offer values 100 Reed shares at £261, compared with £180 at

the "A" holding steady at 194p.

The shipping majors turned in a moderate performance with P & O, in spite of the North Sea, 2p lower at 120p, and Ocean losing a point at 145p. But Furness continued to shed with a rise of 1/2 to 23 1/2, and there was some late interest in some of the second-liners like Hunting Gibson at 145p and wanted for the next account.

In the financial sector, there were rumpus rises from each of the clearing banks with Barclays at 25 1/2, Lloyds 26 1/2, National Westminster 22 1/2 and Midland 26 1/2. Hambros eased 3p to 160p, but there were stronger spots to be found in Jessel Toybee 2p to 72p, Guinness 2p to 136p and Allen & Harter & Ross 10p to 400p.

There was a modest recovery by property shares, the best being MEPC 3p to 70p better, and Land Securities where the rise was also 3p to 162p.

Some insurance shares also advanced, notably Sun Alliance.

Profit-taking has clipped International Computers from a 1976 peak of 26 1/2 to 18 1/2. The computer is that it is selling or renting all the models it can supply and heading for profits this year to September 30 of nearly £30m. Last time, it made £23.1m. But the small rise is partly reflecting a reason: a restoration of this time round.

which recouped some of its recent losses with a jump of 2p to 35 1/2.

Equity turnover on February 9 was £4.95m (131,162 bargains). Active stock yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were BP, Burmah, Tricentral, ICI, English Property, Unilever, Reckitt and Colman, BAI Ltd, Deagen, Shell, Sark, De La Rue, Bechtel, Bass Charring, Commercial Union, Johnson & Johnson, Castles Holdings, P & O, Furness, Wm Hill, Grand Metropolitan and Land Securities.

Improvement at Goode Durrant

After its first half setback, Goode Durrant & Murray picked up strongly in the second six months to October 31. So pre-tax profits rose 25 per cent in the full year to £457,000. Turnover went up from £65.6m to £71.1m. The results include the Rawlings branch subsidiary.

The snag is that tax rose from £512,000 to £569,000, leaving the international finance group with a loss of £112,000 against £158,000.

However, the board is holding the dividend at 1.2p gross and it expects the group to be better this year.

Wm Hill buying SW betting offices

The William Hill Organisation, a subsidiary of Scott Holdings, has acquired the Ken Munden and Sherman groups of licensed betting offices from Slater, Walker who have been advised by Hambros Bank.

The total number of licensed betting offices operated by the Munden and Sherman businesses is 30, of which 30 are in London and the Home Counties.

Elbief still falling

Down and down goes Elbief in handbag frames after the decline in the last two financial years. In the half-year to October 31, pre-tax profits fell £20,000 to £11,000.

However, shareholders get an unchanged gross interim payment of 0.5p and the board reports that sales are rising. The latest sample range has been well received.

Costs hold back Wood Bastow

The turnover of the Wood Bastow Holdings clothing concern rose from £4.25m to £4.75m in the half-year to December 25, but this was not enough to stop pre-tax profits from £255,000 to £240,000.

However, the gross interim payment doubles to 3.08p. The board reports that since the end of the last financial year, demand has continued to be "very strong". But the group has experienced difficulty in increasing capacity.

Costs have also climbed. The board points out that the best part of profits is earned in the second half. The purchase of Andrew Baron earlier this year will boost group turnover by more than 25 per cent.

A good recovery at Reliance Knitwear

At last Reliance Knitwear Group on the mend following two years of headlong retreat. Turnover climbed from £4.44m

Guinness going well to match 1975-76 outcome

Steady progress in the current year to September 30 with a final profit outcome matching last year's £29.3m pre-tax are forecast for Arthur Guinness, Sons, the diversified brewing group. Mr R. A. McNeille, joint chairman, told shareholders that last year's results were affected by a number of "exceptionally favourable" factors. Even assuming that these did not recur this year, an outcome of similar profits to 1975-76 would represent "steady progress".

In the opening four months of this time round, sales in the Republic of Ireland had been below last year's. It was also hoped that the purchase of a meat factory there would develop into a profitable sideline.

Belgrave extraordinary meeting convened

Shareholders in many investment trusts wonder cheerfully whether some institution will bid, but not it seems, those in small Belgrave Assets which has yet to decide where it is going. The shares were suspended on December 22.

Holders of just over a tenth of the shares want Belgrave to keep authorized status but the directors, Messrs J. N. Oppenheim and Colander want Belgrave to relinquish it and take an interest in Kellogg Factors. Kellogg's holdings has 165 per cent of Belgrave's shares.

If this proposal, the trust would then apply for realising. The directors think that Belgrave would do better in non-traditional investments to benefit a group with a small capital.

On February 24 there will

## Interim up a third at a jolly MFI

By Nicholas Hirst

MFI Warehouses, the discount furniture group, continued its strong recovery in the 26 weeks to November 27. Profits were £835,000 against £455,000.

Sales rose from £9.6m to £15.2m and margins were nearly 1 per cent better. Since it discontinued its mail order business, on which its original growth was based, MFI has gone from strength to strength. Now its profits are edging back to the heights of 1972.

As a recovery situation the group can pay more than the usual 10 per cent extra, and the interim dividend is raised a third to 1.55p. Holders of 3,700,000 shares, including Philip Lait and Co and Mrs J. W. Searle, have waived their entitlement.

Mr Arthur Southon, chairman, says that the figures confirm his optimism in his annual statement in October that

growth of sales would continue. New stores continue. Nine of them in the first half of the year. The fifth store is opened in Preston a five or six will be before the year end of about 55. This accounts for one or two closures.

Mr Southon explains the evidence because sales rose administrative cost. The gain in sales the board, All ran particularly fitted kitchens and wall smaller items such as doors and shelving ahead.

The first tranche of £500,000 of new shares had been repaid. But allowed it to be a further year.

Earnings were 3 against 2.0p and the 1p to 43p.

Greenall seeks Stanneylands: AL not playing

Warrington-based brewers, Greenall, have moved in on the apparently settled bid by Associated Leisure for Stanneylands, the Manchester-based hotels and restaurants group. Last week, Associated, which already has a 25 per cent stake in Stanneylands, agreed terms for a 25p offer for the rest.

Now Greenall, which has 10 per cent of Stanneylands, says that it is prepared to offer 30p a share, valuing the whole group at £500,000. The shares are quoted at 25p on the news.

The snag is that Greenall's offer is conditional upon Associated withdrawing from the scene or accepting Greenall's offer. Another condition is that the Stanneylands board be freed from its undertaking to accept Associated's terms.

However, Associated is not going to play.

Signals at slow as BM aims to hold market

After two years of strong growth, Bayerische Motoren Werke will concentrate this year on consolidating its market share at home and abroad, writes Peter Norman from Bonn.

Worldwide turnover is expected to increase at a slower rate to more than DM5,000m in 1977 after jumping to DM4,700m in 1976 from the 1975 level of DM3,600m.

Herr von Kuenheim, chairman, has already indicated that last year's net profit is likely to top DM100m after totalling DM14m in 1975. The increase will be in spite of higher payments to pension reserves estimated at more than DM50m against DM16m.

Investment this year is likely to equal or exceed last year's record total of DM320m. In the

Overseas

course of the year BMW will create between 1,500 and 1,800 new jobs. Last year the parent company workforce in West Germany increased by 1,300 to 30,200 while the group's labour force worldwide rose by about 3,000 to 34,000.

Creusot-Loire unsure

Outlook for Creusot-Loire this year is uncertain. Results in the steel sector are likely to remain mediocre unless fine steel business recovers, the group said.

Results in engineering, however, should be satisfactory thanks to orders won in 1975 and 1976.

The group reports this in a prospectus accompanying the issue of Creusot's 250m franc (about £28.5m) 11.30 per cent domestic bond.

Creusot-Loire confirmed that net 1976 results were sufficient to distribute an unchanged 12 franc dividend on the capital enlarged by 25 per cent owing to the drawing down on previous provisions and the carrying forward of profits from last year (1975 net profit 41.5m francs)—Reuter.

Colgate fig again impr

Fourth-quarter earnings of Colgate-Palmolive rose to \$37.92m and 10 cents a share are forecast for 1976 at 22.25p, compared with 18.26p in 1975. The company's sales in 1976 of 18.26p are forecast.

Of the sectors from 8.030m to 9.8 chemicals from 4.450m to 4.450m from 3.670m to 4.450m and sales of know from 2.670m to 3.55.

Following the four new subsidiary in June, Pechiney increase its share of metals and chemical. It also expected to make a much higher profit in its United Kingdom in 1976. United States sales in 1976 of 18.26p are forecast.

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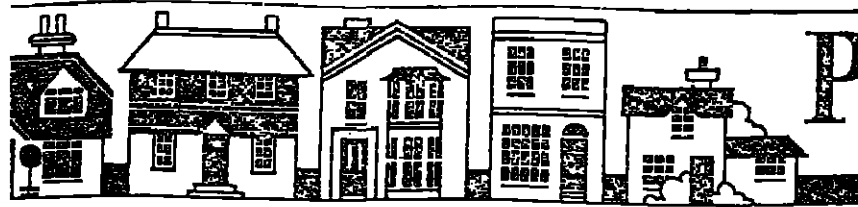
**\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

Afore ye go

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# Property



viory, Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath.

cent early Georgian Wisbech, Cambridge. I be coming on the a few days. The North Brink, a vicar's house, a large house on a striking water-ace overlooking the ur floors, it was built tant in 1710 and has poetically restored. large hall with a antlered staircase, study, dining room, kitchen and utility are a large base- wine cellar, four a large first-floor room and two large bedrooms.

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## Residential property

### A Georgian house on waterfront

Kitchen, and a suite of staff rooms. The first floor includes an upper drawing room, and three bedrooms and bathroom suites. Above there are four more bedrooms and two bathrooms. The cellar house the central heating boiler.

The agents say the house has been modernized at high cost for heating, lighting, green-rooms and bathrooms. Modernization has been carried out with discretion so that the Tudor character of the house is unspoiled.

The walled kitchen garden of about an acre includes a vine-ry (with Muscat vine), green-house and sheds. There are an orchard and two paddocks. The asking price is £125,000.

Twice that price is being asked for the London house of Mr Michael Astor at 1 Swan Walk and 67 Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea (the house was originally two). The agents, Savills and Friend and Falcke, say the house is being sold because Mr Astor's business commitments bring him to London less often.

The united house is a double-fronted eighteenth-century

building with three reception rooms, a sun room, four principal bedrooms, two secondary bedrooms, three bathrooms, two cloakrooms, two kitchens, two utility rooms and staff accom-odation. It has a large walled front garden with an unspoiled view over the Apothecaries' Gardens.

Savills also report a move-ment upwards in the prices of country houses. Their country house department says the mar- ket started to rise in March last year and has been moving forward ever since with a steady turnover and a record number of contracts exchanged during November and December.

"There is no real sign of an increase in the supply of new property available, and so, with interest rates falling and con- fidence in the economy and stock market improving, every- thing points to prices contin- uing to rise throughout 1977."

The Historic Buildings Bureau at the Department of the Environment has issued a large list of historic buildings for sale or to let. The 131-page list includes the old jail at Ross-on-Wye complete with cells, bars and 4ft-thick walls.

Other buildings available are the Messing Maypole windmill at Tiptree, Essex, the old pump-house, that served Brunel's ill-fated "atmos- pheric" railway in South Devon, and Nell Gwyn's house at Newmarket. There are also churches, manors, churches and rectories, farmhouses, barns and mills to be had.

The department says the list of properties is a delightful pre-entour of Britain's history. The list is obtainable free from the Historic Buildings Bureau, Department of the Environment, 25 Savile Row, London W1X 2BT.

A Staff Reporter

## Properties under £25,000

### Co. ANTRIM

**CUSHENDALL**  
Charming Freehold country residence overlooking sea. Beautiful panoramic views. (taken from the best 1000 author's list). 6 large bedrooms, lounge, dining room, hall, staircase, drawing room, pantry, etc. Standing in 1 1/2 acre grounds including orchard VERY PRIVATE SITUATION £25,000 ono secures Phone 01-935 1724 or Portrush 822568

### HOBBS PARKER 22

**KENT**  
NEWINGTON (2 miles Folke- stone) Main Line Station. 2 1/2 acres. Modern detached house with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £25,000

### East Devon

New detached cottage style house in picturesque village approx. 15 miles east of Exeter. To be con- structed to high specification with 2500 x 13ft living room, kitchen, cloakroom, 3 bedrooms, bath- room. Double garage and garden. £20,250.

### CHARMING COTTAGE

Old Isleworth 50 YDS. FROM RIVER AND LONDON PRENTICE PUS Large kitchen, sitting room, dining room, 2 bed- rooms, 2 bathrooms, w.c. Patio and out-house. FREEHOLD £18,350 01-560 3828

### THORNTON HEATH

3 mins. station 15 mins. Heathrow. Modern, spacious semi-detached house. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

### LEWIS CARROLL VILLAGE

Croft on Teas North Yorks. 3 miles from York. Large early Victorian family house. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

### NEW FOREST

Attractive 3 storey semi-detached cottage, set in quiet cul-de-sac, overlooking fields and forest, close to all amenities. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

## Country Flats

### LUXURY PENTHOUSE IN BRIGHTON

1st/2nd floor PENTHOUSE and neighbouring FLAT (can be sold separately) for sale in an FLAT. Spectacular views from every window. Over-look Port and distant Downs. In the Penthouse: 5 very large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

## Country property

### OXFORDSHIRE

**EMORE FARM, Nr. FARINGDON**  
DUCTIVE ARABLE AND STOCK FARM 380 ACRES  
Farmhouse, 4 cottages, Modern Buildings. Freehold with Vacant Possession. Auction: 12th March, 1977. Full particulars from the Auctioneers  
**HOBBS & CHAMBERS**  
Market Place, Faringdon, Oxon. Tel. 0567 20536

## TOP OF THE WORLD

ance to acquire space-able and panoramic views to Sussex coast. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

## NEWPORT ONMOUTH

ed sought after resi- dence, a house with numerous features, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 utility rooms, 2 car ports, 2 garages. £20,250.

## SALEROOM

HOME ANTIQUES  
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**FAIRWAY ENGINEERING LIMITED** is a Zambian based member of an International Group of Companies and a major importer of steel, industrial chemicals and mechanical engineering products.

We are currently inviting applications for the following positions:—

**MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL SALES ENGINEERS—**  
£8,750 + per annum

The successful applicants will become members of an experienced sales team selling the products of our various world renowned principals. The minimum qualification for these positions is HNC or equivalent together with relevant sales experience.

**ACCOUNTANT—£9,000 + per annum**

We require a young accountant, ACA, ACCA or ACMA to take overall responsibility for the accounting function of the company and its subsidiaries including the production of monthly management information.

In addition to the salaries offered above the successful applicants will be offered employment on expatriate conditions of service which provide for:

1. Terminal gratuity equivalent to 25% of salary.
2. Recruitment and repatriation passages.
3. Leave passages between contracts.
4. Education allowances for children attending school overseas.
5. Generous leave conditions.
6. Company car.
7. Free furnished accommodation.

Applications should be sent to:—

**P. H. Recruitment Limited,**  
Excel House,  
42, Upper Berkeley Street,  
London W1K 7PL

## appointment of Director Research into Neurological Disorders

The Council invites applications for the post of full-time DIRECTOR of the MRC Unit in Newcastle upon Tyne for research into neurological disorders. The work of the Unit has been devoted mainly to studies in multiple sclerosis but it is now to be given wider terms of reference. The successful applicant will be a person of high scientific standing, (preferably medically qualified), an established reputation as an original scientific investigator, and proven ability to initiate and organise multidisciplinary research. The post is likely to prove attractive to an experimental neurologist or an experimental neuropathologist, probably with research interest in the pre-senile and senile dementias. The salary for a medically qualified Director, for whom an honorary clinical contract at consultant level will be sought, will be paid on the MRC clinical scale, equivalent to the NHS consultant grade; if an honorary clinical contract is not appropriate, the salary will be within the range for Council's Special Appointment's Grade which is equivalent to the University professional range.

The Unit is housed in purpose-built research accommodation of approximately 10,000 sq ft (gross). A substantial research team with neurobiological expertise is already in post and the Council expects that the strong links that have already been established with the University of Newcastle upon Tyne will be maintained. The title and detailed programme of the Unit will be decided by the Council in the light of the research interests of the Director.

**MRC**

Medical Research Council

Further information may be obtained from Dr A. V. Harrison, 20 Park Crescent, London W1N 4AA. Applications should be submitted to the Secretary of the Council at the same address, not later than 19 March 1977.

## Your international background could make you a highly paid Merrill Lynch account executive dealing with international stocks and bonds

In your late 20's or early 30's? International by upbringing or birth? Educated first, let's say, at Princeton and then at the Sorbonne? Fluent in English, and in one or two other languages as well?

Most likely your degree is in Business Administration, Business Studies, Economics or Law. You have 4-5 years experience in an international financial field, or could be a rising star in marketing or a similar environment. Most definitely you are ambitious. A self-starter. Successful in your present job.

Could this be you? If so, there should be a place for you as an international Account Executive in London. After four months intensive training you will become responsible for providing Merrill Lynch clients with excellent service and advice regarding their finances—especially investments in US and Eurodollar markets.

Please write, giving details of your career to date, to Roger Davis at: Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Ltd., Time Life Building, 155 New Bond Street, London, W1.

**MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH LTD**

Local Office in Services

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER E.C.2

AGED  
30-40

Well established Marine Underwriters in the City of London invite applications for a newly created post as Financial Controller.

Within the next 5 years, the successful applicant will be expected to assume sole responsibility for a substantial investment portfolio and the entire accounting function, as successor to the present Financial Partner. This senior appointment will command at the outset a very substantial income, and cannot be filled by someone who does not already have proven commercial and managerial ability, and first class professional qualifications.

Detailed c.v. to Box No. 0332 J The Times

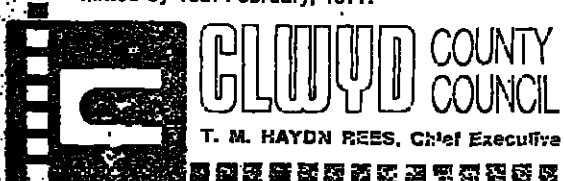
## Director of Administration and Legal Services

Salary: £11,312-£12,093

The Officer appointed will be responsible for Legal Services, Committee secretariat and other functions, including personnel and management services and common services. The person appointed will be a member of the Chief Officers' Management Team and the salary advertised includes recognition for this.

The successful applicant must be a Solicitor and must have wide administrative and managerial experience in a senior post at a high level.

Application forms and particulars of the appointment are available from the Chief Executive, Shire Hall, Mold. Applications must be submitted by 18th February, 1977.



## Northumberland County Council

**COUNTY ESTATES OFFICER**  
£3,934-£9,708

Applications are invited from Chartered Surveyors or other appropriately qualified persons with local government and wide professional and management experience to succeed the present holder of this appointment, who will retire in June 1977.

The County Estates Officer is the Council's professional adviser on the acquisition, disposal and management of property, smallholdings and allotments, land drainage, and related matters. He is responsible for the management of the Estates Department, and as a member of the Chief Officers' team he participates in the corporate work of the team in relation to all the Council's activities.

Application forms, returnable by 28th February and further particulars from the Chief Executive, County Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1SA. This position is open to Men and Women.

## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES ABERYSTWYTH SY23 3BU

**APPOINTMENT OF  
Keeper of Prints, Drawings  
and Maps**

The present holder of this post retires in August, 1977. Applications are invited from persons with appropriate qualifications and experience for this position. Applicants must have a good honours degree in a suitable subject and a thorough knowledge of Welsh and English is essential. The person appointed will be expected to enter upon his duties on 1 September, 1977. The salary scale will be £7,455 x 3 annual increments—£9,122 per annum and a contributory superannuation scheme applies. Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary of the Library at the above address and applications must reach the Librarian not later than Saturday, 19 March, 1977.

## Registrar of the Family Division

The Lord Chancellor invites applications for appointment as Registrar of the Family Division of the High Court. Applicants must be practising solicitors or barristers of not less than 10 years' standing. District Probate Registrars of not less than 5 years' standing, or have served not less than 10 years as clerks in the Principal Registry of the Family Division. The present rate of salary is £11,000 a year, with a maximum pension of one half of the final salary after 20 years' service.

Applications are invited, not later than 25th March, to the Principal Establishment Officer, Lord Chancellor's Department, Romney House, Marsham Street, London SW1P 3DZ. Application forms will be provided on request to that address, or by telephone to 01-212 3774.

## PENSIONS CONSULTANT

Salary circa £8,000 per annum according to age and experience

LARGE firm of City Solicitors seeks a Senior Pensions Consultant (male/female) to assist Partner in advising on Occupational Pensions Schemes and related matters and in the drafting and editing of documents concerned. He/She must have current experience in this field, also a thorough knowledge of relevant legislation and Revenue and Occupational Pensions Board practice. A local qualification is not essential but it is likely to be of value.

Applications together with c.v. and salary history should be addressed in full confidence to:—

**Box K798, WALTER JUDD LIMITED,**  
(Incorporated Practitioners in Advertising),  
1a Bow Lane, London EC4M 9EJ.

## Overseas Openings?

If you are seeking intelligent, experienced people to work for your company abroad this could be your solution.

Times readers are constantly phoning our department to enquire about overseas appointments. Your advertisement could therefore not only help you but many of our readers. To bring our readers and your company together, The Times will present a

## FOCUS ON OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS

ON THURSDAY, 24th FEBRUARY

For further information and to place your advertisement

contact The Appointments Team on

**01-278 9161**

In the north ring 061-834 1234.

## MARINE REINSURANCE BROKER

Salary Minimum £15,000 p.a.

Lloyd's Reinsurance Broking Company, substantial part of Group, requires top-class experienced Marine Reinsurance Salary Minimum £15,000 per annum, company motor car, tributary pension and life assurance, excellent fringe benefit opportunity exists for right applicant to capitalize on perfect Age immaterial.

Reply in strictest confidence to

**Box 0316 J, The Times**

## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### CLERK/TYPIST

to assist commercial secretaries in typing, filing, and other clerical duties. Must be efficient, accurate, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### CHEERFUL DOGSBODY

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### HOW MUCH ARE YOU WORTH?

Would you like a career in the City? We are looking for ambitious, energetic, and motivated people to join our team. Must have a good command of English and be able to work under pressure. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### CONCORD BLEND TEACHER

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### BUSINESS ORIENTATED

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### YOUNG GRADUATE (Economics)

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### INTERVIEWER CONSULTANT

Personnel Consultants in Kensington High St. are looking for an experienced, sales oriented consultant to join their small team. Someone with initiative, enthusiasm, energy and proven sales ability will find this to be a challenging and rewarding career. If you'd like to know more please phone Graham, Nine Eleven Ltd. 01-237 8801.

#### SENIOR CLERICAL

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

### SECRETARIAL

#### SECRETARY REQUIRED

FOR SENIOR PARTNER OF INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE IN PALL MALL. Preferable with experience in professional firm and with a knowledge of French. Lvs. 4 weeks' paid holiday, non-contributory pension scheme, 35-hour week. Salary £5,500 p.a. Full particulars to: Administrative Manager, PETER BLACK AND PARTNERS, 83 Pall Mall, London SW1 01-930 6572

#### INTERNATIONAL COSMETICIANS

BI-LINGUAL SEC.—With fluent French and English shorthand only. To deal with international cosmetics. 9-5 Lvs. 491 3774

#### RAND SERVICES

PUBLISHERS PART TIME SECRETARY Well educated, efficient Secretary for friendly office in Marylebone. WORKINGS ONLY Salary £3,716 p.a. for 20 hours week. RING CELIA KENT 01-387 3322

#### BOOK PRODUCTION

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

### SECRET

#### PA/SECR PUBLICITY

North London newspaper company, CA-4 needs a PA/SECR for publicity. Must be able to write, type, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### LOVE OF MUSIC

SEC P.A. Can sing, play piano, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### FRENCH SPEAKING CHATTEL

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### W.I. AT

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### SUR

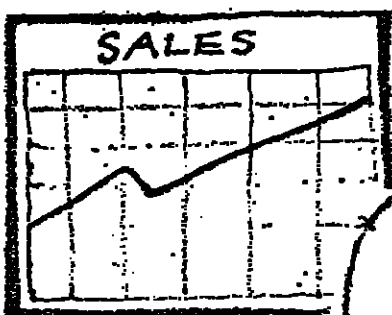
Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### ESTATE AGENTS

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.

#### NOT

Wanted to join a friendly and successful team. Must be cheerful, energetic, and have a good command of English. Salary in excess of £2,400 p.a. Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Smith 01-255 1723 10-12 a.m.



**CRAWFORD PERRY TRAVEL LTD.**

"We have never found a response to that of The Times."

We have taken the above extract from a letter we received from Crawford Perry Travel Ltd., Victoria Street, London.

Regular advertising subscribers to The Times, Crawford Perry wrote to congratulate us on the high standard of service we have given them over the last four years.

In the past, they have experimented with other advertising media, but the response to their advertising has never been equalled by the response to that in The Times, with the result that they now place their advertising almost exclusively in the Holidays & Villas section of the Personal Columns.

Moreover, with The Times' rates having remained very competitive over the years, Crawford Perry feel The Times is the most cost-effective medium through which to reach their potential customers.

Advertise in The Times. Where it pays you to advertise. For further information and advertising details.

ring 01-278 9351.

In the North—Manchester—061-834 1234.









